2013 Annual Report

NIEHOFF URBAN STUDIO & COMMUNITY DESIGN CENTER
Niehoff Urban Studio
Academic Applied Research and Design since 2002

The Niehoff Urban Studio is a program led by the university and driven by the vision of our community stakeholders. The Studio facilitates the study and discussion of urban issues relevant to the vitality and sustainability of Cincinnati and other urban centers. It is the regional center for urbanism, where university and non-university participants can engage in events, symposia, and exhibits that explore these urban issues. The Studio is structured to provide a unique and innovative off-campus classroom to support interdisciplinary work among students, faculty, and engaged community stakeholders. The work of the Niehoff Urban Studio is intended to have a tangible impact on urban problems and contribute innovative research in this area.

The Niehoff Urban Studio is administered by the Community Design Center of the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning with oversight from the Office of the UC Provost. The Studio is administered by professional staff who work in collaboration with participating faculty. Undergraduate and Graduate assistants provide support for studio administration.

Community Design Center
Technical Service since 1986

The Community Design Center organizes collaborative interdisciplinary community university partnerships for the research and design of physical improvements which serve the University’s urban area. The Center provides assistance to community groups, non-profit organizations, and City departments that are representing underserved areas and underfunded projects within the area. The Center is administered by professional design staff with assistance from co-op students and graduate assistants from a variety of disciplines.

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Credits

Press
In 2013 the Niehoff Urban Studio focused on a thematic cycle entitled “Movement in the City”. Spring Semester work concluded a collaboration with the Cincinnati Metro SORTA transportation authority to explore Bus Rapid Transit applications along five regional arterial corridors. Three civic-based Bike Trail efforts were also integrated into studio work for the eastern (Wasson Way), Central (Mill Creek Greenway), and western (Western Riverfront Trail) parts of the city. Fall Semester work focused exclusively on the multi-modal Light Rail Bike Trail Wasson Way project. Urban Planning and Civil Engineering integrated in the studio with eleven other disciplines from four colleges participating in all academic, research, and technical service work. Studio work touched on fifty-four communities and nineteen public events were hosted to promote engagement and dissemination of findings.

Food related work continued to comprise technical service as it has since 2005. Multi-year work concluded for the Gabriel’s Place community food campus as it opened in 2013. A rooftop garden project for an OTR elementary school and a multi-year program for healthy corner stores in “food desert” areas were initiated. CDC efforts supported the studio transportation focus in both the Wasson Way workshop and the Metropolis and Mobility Research Project. Finally the CDC had an opportunity to collaborate with LISC of Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky and the Uptown Consortium to assist the East End community vision a new Garden District, and to define new housing opportunities in Uptown respectively.
Niehoff Studio

Academic Applied Research and Design

Movement in the City
- Bus Rapid Transit and Rapid Bike  Spring 2013
- Wasson Way Bike Trail - Light Rail Corridor  Fall 2013

Associated Seminars and Studios
- Introduction to Innovation  Fall 2013
- Creativity and Change Workshop  Summer 2013
- North Fairmount Comprehensive Planning  Fall 2013
Rapid Bus Transit & Rapid Bike Ways

The 2012-13 Movement in the City studio supported student work with both transit systems and bicycle transportation. The Bus Rapid Transit design program of the studio topic built on an initiative of a transit consortium led by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce Agenda 360 with Cincinnati Metro and three other transit authorities. Bikeway Planning was conducted at the request of three civic advocacy groups that are advancing local bikeway concepts.

Three faculty including Professors Miller, Palazzo, and Russell and fifty-five students from the Civil Engineering and Urban Planning programs worked to engage with the BRT and Bikeway transportation networks in Cincinnati. As interdisciplinary teams they conducted a survey of best practices, site specific research, and urban analysis, for both BRT systems and Bikeways. BRT design was directed at five of the seven urban arterial corridors already identified by Metro for consideration. Bikeway design was provided for three applications including a rails-to-trails proposal, a riverfront parks and trail concept, and the extension of an existing Mill Creek trail along a tributary waterway.

The final student work was presented during an open house. Following the student exhibit, the panel discussion entitled ‘Bright Ideas for Mobility’ was held. The panel, moderated by Randy Simes of UrbanCincy, included Terry Garcia Crews, the CEO of Metro SORTA, Jared Arter, Manager of Cincinnati Bike Hub, and Tim Reynolds, Transportation Planner at Parsons Brinkerhoff who together articulated their visions for the future of Cincinnati’s transportation network.

Framework

Before initiating specific individual urban design, engineering, or programming proposals, interdisciplinary student teams developed urban framework proposals which covered five of the seven Metro proposed BRT corridors (Hamilton, Vine, Reading, Montgomery, Madison) and the three proposed bike trail pathways (Western Riverfront Trail, West Fork Creek Trail, Wason Way).

Research and Reconnaissance

Student Research conducted during Fall 2012 included a survey of innovative planning approaches in BRT and Bikeway design relevant to Cincinnati. BRT topics included Vehicle and Right-of-Way, Transit Oriented Development, Transit Signal Priority and Operations as well as Identity, Education, and Wayfinding. Bikeway topics included Safety and Road Sharing, Right-of-Way and Environmental Issues, and Service and Operation of Bike Trails. Site reconnaissance was conducted in the spring semester.

Design Projects

Bus Rapid Transit: Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

TOD is a key concept related to how transit affects city development. New development can be stimulated through the presence of transit hubs and bikeway trailheads oriented around pedestrian convenience and minimizing walking distance by being more densely structured vertically, rather than horizontally. Student teams developed TOD concepts along each of the five proposed BRT corridors.

Bike Oriented Development (BOD)

Bike trails have the potential to support Bike Oriented Development (BOD). This was expressed by several design teams including an innovative BOD idea that stemmed from an understanding of the lifestyle of biking. This project integrated a community that promotes Lifestyles of Health and Sustainability or LOHAS along the bike path.
Bus Rapid Transit

Connecting the Transit Corridors:
Downtown is the convergence point of the seven proposed BRT corridors. Right of Way (ROW) design and specific street types are proposed to better integrate the BRT into the existing downtown street grid and accommodate traffic through prioritized bus lanes and peak traffic adjustments. The aim is to seamlessly integrate BRT within the downtown urban fabric.

Multi-modal Opportunities and Connections:
Multi-modal opportunities were explored wherever bikeways and BRT lines were in proximity, including at the downtown BRT hub, and along the Wasson Way Bike Trail connections to radial BRT lines.

Park and Ride Opportunities:
Student teams recognized the importance of integrating the existing area travel habits present in suburban auto oriented lifestyles by integrating Park and Ride facilities along BRT lines.

Integrating Green Infrastructure
Infrastructure improvements within the public Right-of-Way allow for considerations of environmental issues. These included measures to manage storm water, ameliorate the urban heat-island effect, and sequester carbon and airborne particulates to improve air quality with extensive tree planting, permeable paving on sidewalks, and other landscape applications.

Branding and Identity:
Branding is important to educate potential riders about the uses and benefits of BRT and bike trails. Student teams tested branding and identity at a number of integrated scales including signage, vehicles, and shelters to distinguish individual BRT lines.

Innovative Technical Solutions for Bus Rapid Transit:
Technical applications incorporated into BRT projects included traffic-BRT coordination, priority signalization, detailed ROW design, peak hour lane alternation, turning radius modifications, and pedestrian safety considerations.

Public Space Concepts:
The exploration of BRT related public space concepts included integrating bus shelter infrastructure with public space amenities and services and providing public space around hub locations to define place nodes for real estate development. Several proposed BRT hubs used adjacent underutilized space to create a defined public area. The Hamilton Ave BRT proposal identified an abandoned rail right-of-way (Vandalia) for a pedestrian promenade.

Rapid Bike Ways

Local and Regional Connections:
While BRT corridors strengthen regional connections in the existing roadway network, new bike trails create opportunities for completely new movement networks. All three proposed bikeways will connect residential areas to commercial service and workplace zones, natural resources, parkland, and institutional assets.

Public Greenspace Development:
As bike trails also allow the possibility of making more accessible property for new parks and public spaces, a key aspect of the Western Riverfront Trail is the creation of a new riverfront park space that serves both bikers and the adjacent community of Lower Price Hill.

Innovative Technical Solutions and Infrastructure for Bike Trails:
Proposals included incorporating important infrastructure improvements such as pedestrian accessibility measures to overcome topographic barriers, shared pedestrian-bike bridges over road and water ways, at-grade bike trail crossings, and the design of comfort facilities for bikers. Where trails accommodated existing rail lines or a future LRT line, project designs took into consideration required clearances and separation options that would allow the two modes to co-exist.

Economic Development:
Student teams explored how transit, and BRT in particular support economic development. Among Cincinnati’s Neighborhood Business Districts (NBDs) vehicular access and parking is limited because of historic build density, topography, and ROW dimensions. High capacity BRT lines promise more use by consumers to overcome barriers to auto accessibility. Likewise, better accessibility to a remote workplace can be accommodated by BRT and this supports a continued residential population as a consumer base in these NBDs.
Bike Paths & Light Rail Transit

The studio theme for 2012-14 is focused on mobility options in the Greater Cincinnati Metropolitan area. During the fall semester the studio collaborated with local transit authorities and civic groups to examine Bus Rapid Transit and new Bike Trail opportunities. During year two the studio is focusing on a shared Light Rail Transit and Bike Trail known as Wasson Way. In the fall semester of 2013, Professor Miller and engineering students began background research to collect relevant standards and best practice examples. During the spring semester engineering students will collaborate with planning, real estate, and urban geography students to produce development scenarios and specific technical applications for the corridor.

Research

Safety and Road Share:
Student teams examined safety as the basis of shared road design. Bicyclists are subject to the vehicular law of the road. Drivers lack awareness of bicyclists’ behavior and rights. The research illustrated ways of managing shared roadways to help drivers and bicyclists stay safe.

Goals and Achievements of TOD:
TOD is a mixed-use area that is specifically designed to support public transit and maximize ridership. Research found that TOD and Bikeway Associated Development possible for Wasson Way could be an important economic development tools to promote density, housing choice, and economic benefits.

Environmental Considerations:
Student research included assessing hidden environmental issues regarding rail-trail implementation including remediation of existing rail-soil contamination and accounting for changes in auto emissions as a result of rail use.

Stormwater Management:
Wasson Way rail-trail construction will include the opportunity to manage stormwater more effectively through green infrastructure improvements. Students researched innovative stormwater management measures applicable to this project.

Rails-with-Trails:
The complexity of integrating a Bike Trail and a Light Rail Transit line in the same corridor prompted student teams to research limitations and standards related to designing and managing the two side-by-side systems.

Bike Paths

Case Studies:
Urban Bike Trail projects have proliferated in cities throughout the United States. Students surveyed local and comparable midwestern examples including the Little Miami Scenic Trail here in Southwest Ohio, the Midtown Greenway in Minneapolis, and the Monon Trail in Indianapolis.

General Information:
The design and management of Bike Trails was researched to support spring semester work. This included documenting required standards, safety considerations, legal and management concerns.

Light Rail Transit

Case Studies:
Cities have been rapidly investing in all kinds of transit infrastructure and this has been visible in new Light Rail Transit implementation in many American cities. Student research included documenting new light rail systems in three comparable medium sized cities of Norfolk, Buffalo, and Charlotte.

Design Regulations and Specifications:
Standards and specifications for LRT design and implementation were collected. Other relevant issues included information on human factors, safety, legal aspects, economic aspects, and environmental sustainability.
In the fall semester of 2013, Professor Russell and students from seven different disciplines completed an interdisciplinary course offered at the Niehoff Urban Studio in collaboration with the UC Forward program. This seminar was designed to introduce students to the creative process of research and innovation as well as collaborative cross-disciplinary teamwork necessary to address specific and real-world urban problems. Three interdisciplinary teams of students partnered with community stakeholders to address three pressing issues in and around the university uptown campus. These included pedestrian safety on the streets around campus, lack of awareness by students of community events, and challenges in finding safe, appropriate, and affordable housing around campus. Student teams worked directly with external and internal stakeholders to document the full scope of identified issues. They researched best practice solutions found elsewhere and explored innovation proposals designed to ameliorate target problems. Solutions included personal cell phone apps, a web based clearing house, new non-profit programs, and new student organizations.


Pedestrian Safety

Challenge:
Research causes of pedestrian-vehicular conflict in the streets around campus and define programs and physical improvements that could ameliorate the problem.

Proposal:
Create a cell phone gaming app to be made available to incoming freshman that simulates risky crossing behavior and describes likely results. Install graphical icons from the app at crosswalks to prompt student pedestrians to be alert to hazards, and redesign crosswalks to maximize pedestrian safety.

Off-Campus Housing Resources

Proposal:
Establish a non-profit group, “Student Housing Organization (SHO),” that will build and maintain a web site accessed database of evaluated off-campus student housing opportunities.
Crafting Sustainable Neighborhoods through Art

An associated non-transportation workshop was conducted in the Summer Semester. This interdisciplinary studio involving faculty and students from urban planning and fine art was focused on the community of Corryville in the Uptown Area of Cincinnati. Student teams were invited to consider the public space within the center of the community and to make art and planning based interventions to enhance the perceptual, physical, and functional aspects equally for community residents, visitors, and university students. Nine teams produced almost sixty proposals including art installations, streetscape and public amenities, cultural programming, and others. The studio was supported by a UC Forward grant that allowed lead Professors Palazzo and Bonansinga to develop and make a scholarly presentation on studio outcomes at the National Signage Research and Education Conference in October.

North Fairmont Comprehensive Planning

In another associated non-transportation workshop conducted in the Fall Semester, Masters Planning Students were invited by Xavier University’s Community Building Institute to develop comprehensive planning scenarios for the west side neighborhood of North Fairmount, English Woods, and parts of South Fairmount. This workshop was intended to explore planning concepts and applications that extended the CBI Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Plan created for the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority. Six student teams were organized and led by Professor Ron Miller with assistance from Professors Danilo Palazzo and Frank Russell to consider environment and green infrastructure, neighborhood business districts, community social resources, transportation connectivity, liveable communities, and the redevelopment of the former English Woods Public Housing property.
Community Development
Affordable Housing  Food
Transit  Mobility Research
Urban Design  Bike Trails

Technical Service

East End Area Study: Community Based Urban Design
Rothenberg Academy Rooftop Teaching Garden
Wasson Way Community Design Workshop
Healthy Corner Stores – Cincinnati
Ridgeway Avenue Housing Study
Gabriel’s Place
Metropolis and Mobility Research Project
East End Area Study: Community Based Urban Design

The Community Design Center collaborated with LISC of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, the East End Area Council, and local stakeholders to develop an urban design concept for an area in the East End. The design work was conducted in a series of stakeholder workshops and responds directly to the East End Area Council's vision for developing a "Garden District" with an integrated business district along Riverside Drive. The Community Design Center synthesized previous research and designed multiple urban design options for the community vision which are documented in "The East End Garden District Study and Urban Design Menu".

http://www.uc.edu/cdc/1_10_14_EastEnd_FinalReport_WEB.pdf
Rothenberg Garden

Rothenberg Academy Rooftop Teaching Garden in Over the Rhine

Stemming from the vision of Pope Coleman, a Prospect Hill Resident and boardmember of the OTR Foundation, the Rothenberg Rooftop Teaching Garden is an innovative green roof project intended to integrate with the curriculum of the existing public elementary school below. The Community Design Center (CDC) collaborated with green roof experts Green City Resources and the OTR Foundation to provide design, specifications, and construction documents for the project which will open in 2014.
Wasson Way Bike & Light Rail Corridor Community Design Workshop

In October the CDC collaborated with the non-profit Wasson Way Organization and the Cincinnati AIA Urban Design Committee in a two day community design workshop for a shared vision of the Wasson Way Bike Trail-Light Rail Corridor. Nearly sixty stakeholders, elected officials, municipal staff, design professionals, and students collaborated to define locations and priorities along the proposed 6.5 mile corridor for infrastructure, amenities, and associated development. Teams mapped and visualized a variety of improvements for the abandoned rail line for new transit hubs with surrounding dense mixed use development, new public spaces and landscaped areas, accessible trail heads, and right-of-way reconfigurations. Volunteer design professionals, and CDC student staff collaborated following the workshop to develop the proposals for presentation at the reveal party. Workshop products enabled WWO to continue planning and fundraising efforts and provide an outline for forthcoming Niehoff Studio work in 2014.


WORKSHOP TEAM:
Jay Andress, WWO
Elizabeth Devendorf, WWO
Susan Shafer, WWO
Frank Russell, UC
Kelly Gregg, UC
Mehri Mobedi, UC
Ico Abreu, UC
Sungik Kang, UC
Ryan Homsi, UC
Hauyy Li, UC
Susha Mahajan, UC
Mary Knight, UC
Yue Wu, UC
John Korabiah, AIA
Matt Gates, AIA
Couper Gardiner, AIA
Doug Hinger, AIA
Joey Hood, ASLA
Graham Kalbi, AIA
Megan Karalambo, AIA
Juliana Silveira, AIA
The Healthy Corner Store program is an initiative of the Center for Closing the Health Gap, a non-profit based in Avondale. The CDC is providing technical services to this organization as it helps meet the goals of bolstering the capacity of existing corner stores to provide more healthy food, specifically fresh produce in underserved areas of the city known as “food deserts”. This program is modeled after similar projects in Philadelphia and other cities targeted at communities that have lost their full service grocer. In parallel to the architectural updates to the corner stores, the program also promotes the advantages of healthy eating to neighborhood residents. Throughout the multi-year project, the CDC will provide documentation of existing corner store conditions and research in best practices for healthy corner stores, as well as provide design and programming proposals for making these stores more functional and effective in providing healthy eating options. The program plans to include more than a dozen stores over a three year period with capital financing provided by the City of Cincinnati Fresh Food Financing Initiative. CDC student staff documented existing store conditions in 2013.

The Community Design Center continued this project initiated in 2010 to implement a comprehensive food campus for the Avondale Community. CDC partnered with the Cincinnati Community Action Agency, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Place Matters - Do Right, Avondale Community Council and the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio to plan and implement the campus. Located at the site of the former St Michaels and All Angels Church on Reading Road in Avondale, the program consists of food production, distribution and education activities. New facilities at the campus include an urban orchard, a community garden with green house and fish producing aquaponics, and a farmer’s market for produce from the site and from a network of gardens throughout the neighborhood. The existing Church Sanctuary was opened for community events and the adjacent Parish house was completely renovated to house classroom space for culinary training and administrative office space. A new addition for a commercial scale kitchen incubator was designed to be compatible with the Historic Register Building and to meet best green building practices with sustainable materials, water conserving fixtures, daylighting, ventilation, recycled/recyclable materials, high efficiency lighting and controls, and super-insulated construction. This effort received a “Best collaborative effort” award from the Community Development Corporations Association of Greater Cincinnati. During 2013 the CDC and Landscape Architect Martin Koepke, provided design and technical assistance to renovate the sanctuary building for community use and to complete the landscape design for the property. This work was made possible with a generous grant from Proctor and Gamble and the Cincinnati Reds Community Foundation.
Ridgeway Avenue Housing Study

The Ridgeway Avenue study was requested by the Uptown Consortium to explore some affordable and market rate housing opportunities for Ridgeway Avenue in the Avondale Neighborhood of Cincinnati. This area is a blighted and isolated residential pocket of the community located in proximity to the proposed I-71 MLK highway interchange. In the summer of 2013, architecture independent study students identified potential sites for the new housing and began to develop housing cluster designs that fit into the existing context and available property. The resulting ideas proposed cluster housing options modeled after those found in the exemplar Mariemont community enhanced with a Dutch inspired “woonerf” or “living street” organizing concept.

http://www.uc.edu/cdc/08_13_13_RIDGEWAY_Web.pdf

Metropolis and Mobility Research Project

In 2012 the Niehoff Studio was invited to participate in an international research project with Universities from Bordeaux, France and Curitiba, Brazil to compare the different mobility issues present in these two cities with Greater Cincinnati. Funded by the French Ministry of Culture and in part by the UC Forward Initiative, the project involves faculty from five disciplines among these universities, including Economics, Urban Planning, and Architecture from UC programs. The research documents comparable measures of public policy, user experience, and urban form relevant to all modes of transportation in each of the partner cities. In addition to faculty research, teaching activities within the various participating UC schools, as well as in the Niehoff Studio, support this project through student studio design explorations. Continuing Niehoff Studio research in 2013 concentrated on documentation and visualization of the relationship between movement systems, demographic conditions and trends including density, and land-use, with natural and built form configurations as the focus. Findings within the Greater Cincinnati Metropolitan Area are expected to clarify relationships among these elements and uncover opportunities for higher efficiencies for movement systems. Comparative research among the participating cities is intended to contribute to the body of knowledge about metropolitan mobility issues. Research presentations were made to conclude the project during October in Paris.


Greater Cincinnati Population Density Modeling
Events

- Real Estate Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Symposium, January 10th, 2013
- Vacant Lot/Occupied Workshop, January 28th, 2013
- “Food as Art” – Modern Makers with FEAST, April 5th, 2013
- “Movement in the City” – Spring Open House, April 19th, 2013
- UC Forward Annual Recap, April 30th, 2013
- Modern Makers – Fernside Benefit Art Auction, May 29th, 2013
- Artbeat – Garry Glenn and Mackinley Motzer, September 6th, 2013
- AIA Planning for the Wasson Way Workshop, September 17th, 2013
- “Make Big Plans” Fundraiser Event, October 1st, 2013
- Artbeat – Niehoff Urban Studio Design Work, October 14th, 2013
- Wasson Way Community Design Workshop, October 12-13th, 2013
- Wasson Way Community Reveal Party, October 18th, 2013
- City Council Candidates Forum, October 30th, 2013
- DAAP Urban Sustainability Student Event, October 8th, 2013
- Business Leaders Alliance Meeting, November 14th, 2013
- Artbeat – Artist Jim Wagner, November 1st, 2013
- Niehoff Urban Studio Fall Open House, December 5th, 2013
- Pop-Up Cincy: DAAP Student Showcase, December 13th, 2013
Events

January 10th, 2013

Real Estate Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Symposium

The Real Estate Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Symposium was held to debate the economic, investment, and planning implications of energy efficiency and sustainability on real estate development. The Niehoff Urban Studio partnered with the University of Cincinnati Real Estate Center to produce this program. The event brought together real estate professionals and sustainability specialists to hear international experts in green design.

January 28th, 2013

Vacant Lot / Occupied Workshop

Partnering with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, Cincinnati City Community Development Department, and Building Value, Professor Virginia Russell brought together horticulture, architecture, and planning students for a weekend workshop at the Studio. The workshop focused on best practices possible for vacant lots in Cincinnati. The workshop included presentations by regional experts on vacant lot programs in place in other cites.

April 19th, 2013

Movement in the City Spring Open House

The open house displayed student work of the Spring Semester focused on five Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridors and three bike trails throughout the region. Following the student exhibit, a panel discussion entitled ‘Bright Ideas for Mobility’ was held. The panel, moderated by Randy Simes of UrbanCincy, included Terry Garcia Crews the CEO of Metro SORTA, Jared Arter, Manager of the Cincinnati Bike Hub, and Tim Reynolds, Transportation Planner at Parsons Brinkerhoff.

http://www.urbancincy.com/2013/05/standing-room-only-crowd-packed-metropolis-mobility-event/

April 30th, 2013

UC Forward Annual Recap

UC Forward held its annual recap meeting at the studio which brought together all the faculty that participated in the UC Forward course development. Led by UC Forward Director Dianne Cline, the event was an opportunity for the faculty to share their successes and challenges with the interdisciplinary courses they participated in and for all to see just how diverse the program was.

July 10th, 2013

“The State of Public Art” – Open House & Panel

The Niehoff Studio hosted a summer academic workshop entitled Creativity and Change: Building and Crafting Sustainable Neighborhoods Through Art in which planning and fine arts students developed proposals for public space in Corryville. The workshop culminated with an open house and exhibit of student work. A speaker’s panel including Steve Schuckman-Cincinnati Park Board, Margy Waller-Artswave, and Catherine Richards-Modern Makers was assembled to discuss the topic.

September 17th, 2013

Planning for the Wasson Way Workshop

In September the Community Design Center, the AIA Cincinnati Urban Design Committee, and Wasson Way community group, hosted an event to provide a broad introduction to the Wasson Way project for AIA members, community stakeholders, and expected participants for the forthcoming Wasson Way charrette. This event provided background material and case studies of similar projects that could be applied to the Wasson Way. This educational event was free and open to the public and was well attended by planners and design professionals from throughout the Cincinnati area.
October 1st, 2013

“Make Big Plans: A Tribute to Bill Butler” Fundraiser

The Niehoff Urban Studio held its first annual fundraiser to honor Northern Kentucky Developer Bill Butler as an urban visionary and city builder. Over 130 guests attended the event. Guests enjoyed the screening of a 7 minute video created by collaborating CCM Digital Studies and DAAP Planning students led by Professor Kevin Burke which celebrated Butler's visionary approach to creating the architecturally innovative Ascent Building. UC President Santa Ono and DAAP Dean Robert Probst presented Mr Butler with the event award. http://vimeo.com/78758632

October 12th, 2013

Wasson Way Community Design Workshop

The CDC continued its partnership with the Wasson Way Organization (WWO) and joined with the Cincinnati American Institute of Architects Urban Design Committee to lead a weekend Community Design Workshop for planning the Wasson Way Bike Trail and LRT line. The workshop was attended by sixty stakeholders including volunteers from the local chapters of the American Planning Association and the American Society of Landscape Architects. Following the Workshop, professional designers mentored CDC student staff to develop workshop proposals which were presented at the Wasson Way community reveal party on October 18th.

October 18th, 2013

Wasson Way Community Reveal Party

The Wasson Way Community Reveal Party presented the work created in the weekend Community Design Workshop and its refinement with professional volunteers and CDC's student staff. The Community Reveal Party was held at the Hyde Park Floral and Garden Center located along the Wasson Way rail line and offered an opportunity for the public to see the ideas presented and give feedback on the designs to assist in advancing the Wasson Way trail initiative.


October 30th, 2013

City Council Candidates Forum

Just before the November elections, the Niehoff Urban Studio partnered with UrbanCincy to host a forum for city council candidates to debate issues of urbanism. The debates gave the candidates the opportunity to address a variety of urban issues including transportation, land-use, sustainability, community development, and ideas of how to strengthen and revitalize neighborhoods throughout the city. Moderated by UrbanCincy Editor John Jung, the forum included 10 candidates of the 21 candidate field.
November 8th, 2013

DAAP Urban Sustainability Student Event

The Niehoff Urban Studio opened its doors to an Urban Sustainability Event for students conducted as a part of the November Future Cities Liveable Futures Symposium at the Contemporary Arts Center. This all day workshop, led by ARUP Engineer Chris Lubkeman, invited and challenged students to actively think about the future sustainability of cities. This engagement motivated students to critically evaluate their role in the future of cities and how sustainable practices can be integrated into their everyday lives.

Business Leaders Alliance Fall 2013 Meeting

The Niehoff Urban Studio provided a venue for The Business Leaders Alliance (BLA) fall meeting. The BLA brings together local business leaders, academics and promising college students to discuss challenging business issues. At this event Frank Russell (Niehoff Urban Studio/UC), Craig Vogel (Livewell Collaborative/UC), and Allie Engelhart (Miami University) provided their perspectives on how business leaders can utilize creativity and innovative collaboration opportunities to address challenging business problems.

December 5th, 2013

Niehoff Fall Open House

The Niehoff Urban Studio’s fall open house brought together students and community stakeholders to celebrate the accomplishments of the semester. The courses included a Master of City Planning plan making workshop, a freshman interdisciplinary seminar that examined urban innovation, and a civil engineering capstone that researched opportunities for the Wasson Way project.

December 13th, 2013

Pop-Up Cincy

As part of the Pop-Up Cincy programming efforts, the Niehoff Urban Studio opened its gallery space to DAAP Master of Fine Arts students. This exhibit was just one of many pop-up galleries displaying art around the Short Vine and Ludlow Business Districts. The gallery openings also corresponded with programmed activities and events that promote street activity in the Short Vine and Uptown business districts.
Artbeat Events

The Niehoff Urban Studio opens its storefront gallery space each month along with other businesses and pop-up galleries on Short Vine in participation with Artbeat on Short Vine. Beginning in September, Artbeat began as an ongoing effort to improve the public space and street activity on Short Vine St. The studio will continue participating in Artbeat on the first Friday of every month throughout the year.

http://www.shortvinecincy.com/

Modern Makers Events

Modern Makers has been an ongoing partner with the Niehoff Urban Studio. The studio maintains this partnership to support Modern Makers efforts to promote the arts and make them accessible to the public in the UpTown area. The events produced by Modern Makers, support street level activity on Short Vine St. and are synergistic with the studio’s mission of promoting urban vitality. This year the Niehoff Urban Studio hosted four Modern Maker events.

http://harkandhark.com/

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September 6th, 2013
- Artists Garry Glenn and Mackinley Motzer

October 4th, 2013
- Niehoff Urban Studio Student Design Work

November 1st, 2013
- Artist Jim Wagner

December 6th, 2013
- Niehoff Urban Studio Student Design Work

April 5th, 2013
- “Food as Art” M.M. with FEAST

May 29th, 2013
- Fernside Benefit Art Auction

September 25st, 2013
- Drawing Flora, Fauna, and Forms

October 12th, 2013
- “Corpse A Copia” M.M. with PLEASE and Reptiles + Rainbows
Credits

Graduate Assistants, Coops and Student Helpers
Mehri Mohebbi Urban Designer, Architect, Urban Planner
Ana Ozaki Architect, Urban Designer
Sungik Kang Urban Planner
Mary Knight Graphic Designer
Fei Yang Urban Designer, Urban Planner
Sang Jun Park Planner
Jesse Larkins Architect
Sarah Kusuma Architect
Emad Rashid Urban Planner, Video Production
Linnea Wilson Video Production

Independent Study, Technical Service Projects
Ryan Homsi Urban Planner, Wasson Way
Haoyu Li Urban Planner, Wasson Way
Yue Wu Urban Planner, Wasson Way
Sasha Mahajan Urban Planner, Wasson Way
Jonathan Wilkinson Architect, Ridgeway Ave. Housing Study
Darion Ziegler Architect, Ridgeway Ave. Housing Study
Joseph Sandmann Urban Planner, East End Area Study

Teaching Faculty
Dr Richard Miller Professor, Civil Engineering (BRT/Bikeway Studio, S13, Wasson Way Studio, F13)
Dr Danilo Palazzo Professor, Urban Planning (all Studios)
Kate Bonansinga Professor, School of Art (Creativity and Change Workshop, Su13)
Ron Miller Adjunct Assistant Professor, Urban Planning (North Fairmount Studio, F13)
Mafe Ramirez Graduate Assistant, Civil Engineering (BRT/Bikeway Studio, S13)
Frank Russell, Studio Coordinator-Adj. Asst. Professor, Urban Planning (all Studios and Seminars)

Collaborating Faculty and Researchers
Dr Carla Chifos Urban Planner (Metropolis and Mobility Research Project)
Dr Rebecca Williamson Architect (Metropolis and Mobility Research Project)
Dr Olivier Parent Economist (Metropolis and Mobility Research Project)
Dr Shaun Bond Real Estate, Director UC Real Estate Center (Real Estate Efficiency - Sustainability Forum)
Kevin Burke, Digital Media (Fundraiser Video)

Supporting Departments
Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost University of Cincinnati
Office of the Dean College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning
School of Planning College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning
School of Art College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning
School of Advanced Structures College of Engineering and Applied Science
UC Forward Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost
Honors Program Honors College

Community
Keep Cincinnati Beautiful
Uptown Rental Properties
UC Student Activities and Leadership Development
Spring in our Steps
Cincinnati Dept. of Transportation and Engineering
Metropolitan Sewer District
Xavier Univ. Community Building Institute
Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities

LISC of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky
Metro SORTA
Mill Creek Restoration Project/Groundwork Cincinnati
Northside Community Council
Cincinnati American Institute of Architects
Wasson Way Bike Trail Advocacy group
Over the Rhine Foundation
Cincinnati Public Schools

Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Ohio
Western Riverfront Bike Trail Advocacy group
Place Matters - Do Right
Avondale Community Council
Gabriel’s Place
UrbanCincy
Business Leaders Alliance

University of Bordeaux
University of Curitiba
Closing the Health Gap
Modern Makers
Art Beat Short Vine
Uptown Consortium
East End Area Council
Standing Room Only Crowd Packs Metropolis and Mobility Event
Urbancincy.com

Wasson Way Trail could be hub of activities and economic growth
Cincinnati.com

Hyde Park Residents Can Weigh in on Trial Design
Cincinnati.com

CDC Student is Featured for His Work with the East End Neighborhood
LISC Newsletter

City Council candidates debate on Issues of Urbanism at the Niehoff Urban Studio
Urban Cincy

Press
3.09.2013 Standing Room Only Crowd Packs Metropolis and Mobility Event Urbancincy.com
9.23.2013 Wasson Way Trail could be hub of activities and economic growth Cincinnati.com
9.25.2013 Hyde Park Residents Can Weigh in on Trial Design Cincinnati.com
10.30.2013 CDC Student is Featured for His Work with the East End Neighborhood LISC Newsletter

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Students
