

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Tim de Noble, AIA  
Professor and Dean

### Greetings from Manhattan, my new, wonderful home!

I am extremely excited to begin my first academic and fiscal year at the College of Architecture, Planning and Design. In my short time here, I have found a vibrant community focused on advancing design education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Each day I am buoyed by the dedication of the staff in ensuring that our students have the opportunity to engage in the many wonders of our distinct educational model. Our faculty remains dedicated to the practice-based paradigm while recognizing the need to increase our involvement in interdisciplinary research and design-research initiatives. In meeting with the University administration, it is obvious that our College maintains a healthy reputation and as such we are looked to for campus leadership, an enviable position.

I have visited many of our alumni in Dallas, Kansas City, Lawrence, Manhattan, St. Louis and Wichita. These visits increase my excitement about the College, the accomplishments of our graduates and the trajectory of our current students. In each visit, I have found a dedicated base of supporters interested in the direction of the College and how they can best support our mission. During these conversations, I have stressed four

areas of focus for our development efforts aimed at the long-term health of the College and our programs: facilities, interdisciplinary research, service learning and leadership.

#### 1. Facilities

Obvious in each of my visits with our alumni and friends is the accord between the quality of each firm's work environment and its design ideals: direct expressions of professionalism, leadership and advocacy of design. In each case, I have spoken of the need for Seaton Hall and Seaton Court to reflect our values as well. Seaton speaks, but what is it saying and what should it say about us? Seaton should reflect our values while providing an example for the campus and the world. **With your help, Seaton Hall will be a 21<sup>st</sup> century learning and research facility reflecting our belief in the enriching potency of design, our dedication to preserving our historic heritage, our traditional home and our commitment to the stewardship of the environment.**

#### 2. Interdisciplinary Research

Not surprisingly, in visiting our alumni firms I have found practices rooted in a spirit of interdisciplinary exchange. In practice, we partner with engineers, specialists and businesses to bring about the best results for our clients. The ability to negotiate the periphery of our expertise is paramount to the

success and recognition of our work in an age of holism brought on by the metrics of environmental stewardship. In parallel, our faculty and students need and desire these same opportunities, at once expanding the base of knowledge and, respectively, learning to synthesize issues directly and indirectly affecting design. In line with this imperative, **we must expand opportunities for our students and faculty to engage in interdisciplinary research and design-research activities within the College and across the University.**

#### 3. Service Learning

Central to Kansas State University is its land-grant mission of teaching, research and outreach. As we appraise our efforts in the College, we must find ways to increase our outreach component through sustained service-learning initiatives aimed at helping our communities while providing our faculty and students with tangible design and research opportunities. In doing so, our educational mission becomes inextricably linked to the well-being of our state through direct service to its constituents.

#### 4. Leadership

**Design professionals are proactive, inventive leaders.** In parallel to the civic engagement of so many of our alumni, I am encouraging our



student organizations and clubs to become deeply involved in the broader student governance of the campus. In particular, I am supporting their focus on leading in the area of environmental stewardship. Our students understand the impact of human behavior and practices on the environment, as well as the potential of enhancing their educational opportunities by ameliorating the direct and indirect costs associated with maintaining our educational facilities. In encouraging our students' leadership, I have assured them our professional base will greatly

appreciate their experience of community involvement, as it is valuable preparation for a lifetime of civic engagement and design leadership.

### Supporting Our Mission

As we know, these are difficult economic times directly affecting the programs housed in our College and the initiatives aimed at expanding the educational opportunities of our students. Diminished support of higher education by the state and lack of funds to deal with the building and maintenance needs of our campus are certainties. In light of this, how can each of you help us to maintain and hone the quality of our teaching and research endeavors, as well as help us to ensure Seaton Hall becomes and remains an effective learning environment? Thankfully, many of you are already deeply engaged in the College through financial support and direct involvement in advisory capacities and through advocacy. I ask you to rededicate yourself, and by extension your firms, to three tracks of engagement with the College and its constituent programs, as they prepared you for your professional endeavors.

#### 1. Direct Support

Please reflect on the value of your educational experience, on those opportunities that meant the most to you and have proven to be most

effective in preparing you for your successful career. Put yourself in the seats of today's students and imagine how your support could make a life-changing difference for them. Consider your overall support of programs at K-State, including contributions to the Ahearn Fund by virtue of obtaining your seats at sporting events. Are you supporting the College from which you gained your initial credentials to succeed professionally at or above the same level as the sports programs that provide you with periodic entertainment and pride? I certainly hope you will commit yourself to support our College and its programs at a level acknowledging its primary place in your life.

#### 2. Engagement

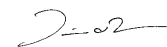
How can you be involved with our College, no matter your proximity to Manhattan or our programs? Through internship opportunities, by alerting us to the projects in your office and opportunities for our classes to visit projects under construction, by letting us know when you will be in Manhattan and willing to engage in critiques or lectures, or through advising us of the trends affecting your practices and engagements. Please contact us on a regular basis with your ideas.

#### 3. Advocacy

As one of our constituents, you are

an ambassador for the College and its programs. Our graduates work for and lead some of the most powerful corporations and foundations in the world. In many cases, the work you have completed on their behalf has changed their life, work or home environment profoundly. You can help us improve our learning environment in Seaton Hall by advocating on behalf of our mission. Help us convince these well-placed decision makers that our future, and the environment in which we teach and learn, is significant to them. Help us convince them that our story is their story.

I pledge to all of you that my staff and faculty colleagues will effectively and regularly communicate the successes of our college, our students, our faculty, our staff and our alumni in order to advance the reputation of the College's constituent programs and, by extension, the quality of the degrees held by our alumni! Stay tuned as we announce a number of initiatives at the College and University levels aimed at more effectively communicating with our constituency as well as those involved in policies affecting our future.



**Tim de Noble, AIA**  
**Professor and Dean**  
 tdenoble@k-state.edu  
 785.532.5950

### Fall 2009 Calendar

8/24	Fall Semester Begins
8/24-9/11	Student KCDC Exhibit
8/31-9/4	LARCP Design Week
9/11	All College Photo
9/14	KCADDR Golf Classic
9/14-10/9	Student Study Abroad Exhibit
9/17	Pecha Kucha Lecture by Shawn Basler, Mike Niemann, Doug Stockman, Blake Belanger, Larry Bowne and Peter Magyar
9/17-19	Dean's Advisory Council Meeting
9/19	Architecture Professional Advisory Board Meeting
9/26	K-State Family Day
10/1	Lee Bryant Memorial Lecture by Dan Snow.
10/3	Tailgate at KSU vs ISU Football Game in Kansas City
10/12-30	Student Academic Internship Exhibit
10/18-21	MLA Accreditation Visit
10/21	Lecture by Mark Shapiro
10/30	Mock Interviews
11/2	Lecture by Scott Smith
11/2-13	Alumni Honoree Exhibit
11/9	Lecture by Kevin Kennon
11/11	Lecture by Alan Dunlop, 2009 Regnier Visiting Chair in Architecture
11/12-13	Alumni Honoree Visit
12/11	Bowman Forum
12/14	Fall Semester Ends