PORTLAND URBAN ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH LABORATORY

ARCH 4/601 PUARL Research Seminar
1-4 Variable Credits
Time: Thursday 2:00 – 3:00pm and by apt.
Instructor: Hajo Neis, PhD; hajoneis@uoregon.edu (Jim Pettinari, Lloyd Lindley, Gabriel Brown)

The Portland Urban Architecture Research Laboratory, PUARL, is devoted to the study of urban architecture and urban design locally in Portland, regionally in cities of the Northwest and the Pacific Coast of the United States as well as internationally, specifically in Europe and Asia. The main purpose of PUARL is to conduct and promote activities in urban architecture research and urban design research that help to improve the quality of buildings and the city: We attempt to integrate wholeness and sustainability into the architectural and urban design process by conducting basic and applied research throughout the Portland region (and also other parts of the nation and the world) in urban morphologies, urban building typologies, and urban processes for civic groups, public agencies, professional firms, and development interests.

Students taking this seminar will engage these efforts through an array of methods including economic and development research, research through drawing, and pattern language development.

Possible research topics include but are not limited to:

1. Urban Architecture: Making the Downtown Arthur Hotel “cool,” according to a request by the client.
2. Tsunami escape designs for Oregon Coastal cities (working with Oregon “FEMA”).
3. Patterns and Sustainability: Research for bringing together two big traditions of the Oregon Department of Architecture and the University as a whole.
4. Producing the PUARL Conference best contributions in a book, including several student publications.
5. Evaluation of the image and efficiency of PUARL (ongoing investigation).