The EcoMod Project Moves to New Mexico

The lecture presents an overview of the EcoMod project, an interdisciplinary curriculum and research effort to create high-performance housing units for nonprofit affordable housing organizations. The lecture’s focus, for the most part, will be on the last few projects at the University of Virginia, which included the commercialization of one of the EcoMod designs by a modular home builder. The trajectory of the project in its new home at the University of New Mexico will also be discussed.

John Quale is the director of the graduate architecture program and professor of architecture at the University of New Mexico School of Architecture and Planning, as well as the founder and director of the EcoMod project. A Fulbright Scholar at the University of Tokyo and a Thomas Jefferson Visiting Fellow at Cambridge University, Quale is an expert in sustainable design, public interest design, and offsite construction. He has received more than 40 awards for his design, teaching, and research work, including the 2013 Architect magazine R+D Award, the AIA Education Honor Award, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards Grand Prize, the US Green Building Council Excellence in Green Building Curriculum Award, and finalist status for the UN World Habitat Award—the only US finalist that year. In 2010, he was the University of Virginia nominee for the US Professor of the Year Award from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Quale’s design, teaching, or research have been featured or cited in more than 170 print or broadcast outlets, including National Public Radio, CNN, and HGTV, as well as Architect, Metropolis, Architectural Record, Dwell, and the New York Times. He has written two books in addition to multiple essays and book chapters. Most recently, he is the coauthor and coeditor of Offsite: Constructing a Postindustrial Future, forthcoming from Routledge in late 2016.