Civic Stadium Site

Studio Project: a New YMCA
The Eugene YMCA board of directors wants to replace its aging and cramped building at Patterson Street and 20th Avenue in South Eugene. Today the facility is woefully out-of-date, with prohibitively high maintenance costs. In December of this year the YMCA will be making an offer to purchase the Civic Stadium property, a 10.2-acre site that was last used by the Eugene Emeralds baseball team in 2009. The Y hopes to build a $15 million recreation and community center on 4.5 acres, leaving more than half of the property to be developed with housing.

Program
The program is diverse and rich. Many pieces are very specific in their dimensional and spatial components (basketball court, lap pool), others much more loose, like connective tissue (hallways and lounges). The 56,000 square foot state-of-the-art YMCA facility includes an aquatic center, family recreational spaces, academic achievement center, wellness center, classrooms, group exercise rooms, a yoga/dance studio, childcare facilities, and locker rooms. There will also be a tennis facility (6 indoor courts) constructed on top of on-grade parking.

Opportunities for students in the studio
This project is local and real. Students will work in partnership with the YMCA’s Director and Co-Director, both of whom will be actively involved in the studio process. Local practitioners from PIVOT Architecture have offered to “adopt” this studio and will play a significant role in bringing a high quality experience to students. We are still working through what this will “look like”, but expect office visits and weekly engagement. Teamwork and collaboration will be encouraged for those students who would like to develop a project proposal jointly.

Mission of the YMCA
The YMCA has clear ideals: youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. A new facility will allow them to offer 500 free memberships to kids throughout the district, teach every 3rd grader how to swim, and subsidize youth programs throughout the county. Beyond increased outreach, they will be operating programs and services that promote health. Environmental concerns are huge: clean air, natural light, and good water. Creating spaces that support socialization and spiritual rejuvenation are critical to their agenda. Spearheading the single largest capital project in our community in a very long time (outside of the University or hospital system), the Y recognizes the importance of creating a building that models sustainable and regenerative building practices.

Focus of the Project Design
Site Planning and Building Organization: getting the right things in the right places.
Technical Requirements for Long-span Spaces: developing a structural methodology.
HVAC Systems: exploring passive and active systems for heating, cooling, and water filtration.
Materials and Detail: developing a cohesive, beautiful building vocabulary inspired by the Y’s mission.
Project Submittal: putting together a presentation document for the Y that will generate interest in the project and promote fund raising.