TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROTOTYPES
An exploration into new forms of transitional housing

University of Oregon – Portland
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Project Overview
The subject of this studio will be the research, programming, planning and design of a new transitional housing development for Central City Concern (CCC). CCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency serving single adults and families in the Portland metro area who are impacted by homelessness, poverty and addictions. Founded in 1979, the agency has developed a comprehensive continuum of affordable housing.

CCC is currently experiencing a shortage of recovery-oriented transitional housing. Transitional housing units are designed for people who are newly engaged in treatment and recovery, but do not have adequate housing options. This short-term housing combined with intensive case management and clinical services, provides the stability and support necessary to begin building a new life. Depending upon their individual needs, clients are in transitional housing for 3-9 months. During this time, CCC assists people in finding permanent housing. Many opt to move into CCC Alcohol & Drug Free Community housing. For others, those who are ready to move into the community at large, CCC provides housing placement services, rent support and other resident services.

In a typical year, more than 1,300 people begin their recovery from homelessness in CCC’s secure and stable transitional housing. Because of the shortage of transitional housing, CCC is unable to house hundreds of other people that seek these services. CCC envisions this project as an extension of its transitional housing. The current thinking is that the development will include 35 efficiency units, support spaces for CCC services and programs, and various site amenities. Key areas of exploration will be pre-fabrication, opportunities for mass timber construction, and innovative material research.

The project site is located along the north side of NE Sandy Blvd between NE 116th Ave and NE 118th Ave. Given the site’s unique (and challenging) characteristics and its proximity to public transit, CCC feels that the site not only meets the needs of its clients but offers an opportunity to explore innovative prototypes for transitional housing.

Studio Structure
The two term studio will be divided into four phases. Phase One will be Research & Programming, which will include intensive engagement with the client. This work will be conducted in small teams, each dedicated to multiple topics and/or tasks. Phase Two will be Concept/Schematic Design. During this phase the students will identify a conceptual direction for the project. All subsequent work will build on this concept. Phase Three, which will overlap the two terms, will be Design Development. During this phase students will explore and define the project’s materiality, structure, building systems, etc. The final phase will be Detailed Design and Final Documentation. Based on the work of the previous phases students will identify key elements of the project to explore in greater detail.

Throughout the entire process the studio will have visiting consultants (engineering, code, etc.) to assist in the development of specific aspects of the project. In addition, there will be ongoing engagement with CCC staff.

Final studio output will include a final exhibition of research and design work, and the publication of a "Design Manual" to be presented to CCC documenting the process and outcomes.
INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Brian Cavanaugh  AIA  AIBC  NCARB
Principal & Co-Founder
ARCHITECTURE BUILDING CULTURE
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Brian was born in Portland, Oregon in 1969. He earned his Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Oregon where he received a one-year fellowship to study architecture and urban design at the Mackintosh School of Architecture in Glasgow, Scotland; and he earned his Master of Architecture degree from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design.

Prior to establishing his practice, Architecture Building Culture LLC (ABC), Brian served in senior positions at a number of highly recognized design firms. Most notably, he served as a Senior Associate at Michael Maltzan Architecture in Los Angeles, California. There he oversaw some of the firm’s most significant cultural projects, including MoMA QNS in Long Island City, New York; the Sonoma County Museum in Santa Rosa, California; and the programming and master planning for the major expansion of the Vancouver Art Gallery in Vancouver, Canada.

Current work includes various projects in Canada, the United States, and the South Pacific. These projects include a renovation to a historic commercial building in downtown Portland; a new transitional housing project for the Central City Concern (Portland, OR); multiple planning projects for the Port of Seattle including the programming and planning of the new International Arrivals Facility and Sustainable Airport Master Plan for the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport; a new spa and villa for a resort in Fiji (under construction); and a number of single family residences (both in design and under construction).

In addition, ABC serves as the Portland based Design Advocate for THE 1%, a program of the San Francisco based nonprofit, Public Architecture that connects non profits with architecture and design firms willing to give of their time pro bono. Design Advocate firms are selected in recognition of their exemplary public service, leadership in the pro bono movement, and track record of design excellence.

The work of ABC and its principals, Brian Cavanaugh and Mark Ritchie, has won numerous design awards and been published throughout the world. Most recently, ABC was awarded the 2014 AIA Northwest & Pacific Region Emerging Firm of the Year Award. Other recent awards have included AIA Portland’s 2014 Citizen’s Medal for Design Excellence for the Roberts Creek Cabin and the 2014 AIA Portland Citation Award for Interior Design for the Lubavitch Center of British Columbia. In 2013, ABC was ranked as one of the top 50 design firms in the U.S. by ARCHITECT Magazine (The ARCHITECT 50).

He has been an instructor at the University of Oregon, Victoria University of Wellington, the University of Southern California, the Boston Architectural Center, Woodbury University, and the Otis College of Art & Design, and a guest critic at a number of academic institutions. He is a licensed architect in California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the Architectural Institute of British Columbia; and is certified by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

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