Our students operate locally and globally, developing confidence in themselves and a commitment to others. Exposure to diverse stakeholders fosters students’ listening skills and enhances their collaboration skills. A survey of our recent graduates and alumni proves these outreach experiences during their time in Norman continue to shape their lives and careers.

On behalf of all students, faculty and staff of The University of Oklahoma College of Architecture, I affirm our commitment to engaged learning with our students. Together, we will build the foundations for stronger and more resilient communities wherever we may be needed!

Regards,

Hans E. Butzer, AIA, LEED AP
Dean, College of Architecture
The University of Oklahoma

At The University of Oklahoma College of Architecture, we challenge our students to learn by doing, to put their knowledge to the test by serving communities around the world. Design Matters offers highlights from our students’ work and impact within and beyond our College environs. The range of projects, from Muskogee, Oklahoma, to Italy and Uganda, is a testament to our students’ abilities and ambitions. It is also an indicator of our faculty and staff team’s commitment to providing ideal and inspired learning environments for our students.

Five key themes are threaded throughout our students’ work and community connections: Arts & Culture, Development, Education, Health and Social Equity. These themes reflect the ethical and sustainable lenses through which our students apply their knowledge. Our students learn best by doing, collaboratively more often than not. This approach makes visceral the power of engagement, whether with our professional or lay communities.
The College of Architecture and OU Precollegiate Programs cohosted 30 rising ninth and tenth grade students from across Oklahoma for a one-week program of hands-on learning activities relating to architecture, interior design, environmental design, and construction science.

The OU Institute for Quality Communities hosted the third Placemaking Conference, where experts from around the world shared ideas for making better communities with an audience of more than 1,000 civic leaders from 58 counties in Oklahoma and 12 states.

Architecture and Construction Science students earned first place in the 2016 Southwest Region Design-Build Student competition and third place in the National Design-Build Student Competition, for their proposal to deliver design and construction services under one contract with a single point of responsibility.

A team of students led by an assistant professor of Landscape Architecture researched the experiences of children living with autism, mobility limitations, and vision and hearing impairments to understand how to create an inclusive play environment for Oklahoma City's MAPS 3 Lower Park.
The College of Architecture, Institute for Quality Communities and OU-Tulsa Urban Design Studio worked with the City of Muskogee to reimagine the city’s downtown in the plan, *Downtown Muskogee: A Landscape of Hope*, which was formally adopted by the city.

Faculty from Regional and City Planning and Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum founded the OU Center for Peace and Development, to build collaborative partnerships with communities affected by conflict, particularly in northern Uganda.

A team of Landscape Architecture students received the Central States American Society of Landscape Architects Communication Award for their digitally designed and fabricated model of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Marathon route, which was also short-listed for a World Landscape Architecture (WLA) Award.

The College of Architecture kicked off a multi-year celebration of its American School legacy, hosting an all-day symposium featuring award-winning architects who focus on contextual, resourceful, and experimental design.
**SOCIAL EQUITY**

Led by Regional and City Planning and Women’s and Gender Studies faculty, a team of OU students facilitated a photovoice project with women who were abducted during the Ugandan civil war and forced into marriages with rebels or conscripted as soldiers themselves, helping the women to tell their stories.

**EDUCATION**

The College of Architecture, OU Libraries and the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art hosted more than 50 Norman Public Schools seventh and eighth grade students for ArtEDGE, a campus visit combining art observation and inspiration, virtual reality, and architectural design.

**EDUCATION**

Architecture students collaborated with the Capitoline Museum and the Academic Initiatives Abroad Center in Rome on a research and community service project that measured and documented ancient architectural remains stored on the historic Celian Hill overlooking the Roman Colosseum.

**HEALTH**

The OU Institute for Quality Communities worked with the Texas County Health Department, Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust, and City of Guymon to improve public health by making streets that encourage walking and biking.
Construction Science and Architecture students took home top honors in the annual TEXO competition in the Commercial and Design-Build categories.

Environmental Design students in the OU College of Architecture designed a recreation area around a reservoir in Altus, developed retail strategies in Oklahoma City’s Deep Deuce neighborhood, and planned restorations of historic train depots in Moore and Wagoner.

Led by an associate professor of Construction Science, students in the College of Architecture made two trips to Houston to help residents clean up in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

Interior Design students earned top honors in the Dallas Illuminating Engineering Society Student Lighting Competition.
The University of Oklahoma College of Architecture hosted the American Society of Interior Designers’ National Student Summit, where students from across the country **learned to navigate their careers and enhance their understanding of the impact of design on people and their environments.**

**DEVELOPMENT**

OU College of Architecture graduate students and the OU Institute for Quality Communities worked with local leaders to **develop plans to improve economic vitality and sense of place in Midwest City, Cushing, and Vinita.**

**SOCIAL EQUITY**

A team of College of Architecture students built a playhouse to help raise funds and awareness in support of Court Appointed Special Advocates, **who provide children with a safe and healthy environment in permanent homes.**

**EDUCATION**

An Interior Design student earned a spot in the “Top 10,” out of more than 800 students from 65 universities, in the Steelcase NEXT competition, which asks students to **reimagine the design studio of the future.**
The College of Architecture celebrated its fifth anniversary in its state-of-the-art facility Gould Hall, which brought the collaborative disciplines of Architecture, Construction Science, Environmental Design, Interior Design, Landscape Architecture and Regional and City Planning under one roof.

**EDUCATION**

Landscape Architecture students were honored by the Oklahoma City Community Foundation and Oklahoma American Society of Landscape Architects for their Korean War Memorial projects.

**EDUCATION**

A team of Landscape Architecture students won the national Come Alive Outside Design Challenge for their design of an engaging outdoor learning environment.

**EDUCATION**

The OU Institute for Quality Communities partnered with the Oklahoma Municipal League to host a workshop training 80 city managers and elected officials on making public spaces that celebrate local culture and generate economic development.

**DEVELOPMENT**

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