

To: IntArchSymposium@yahoo.com
Re: Blurred Lines Interior Design Symposium at FIU – Call for Papers

Abstract Title: Smart Cities, Smart Design

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Bio: Liz teaches interior design studio and courses focused on drawing representation. Her research focuses on of healthy communities, cultural identity and the everyday.

Image:



Smart Communities, Smart Design



Our university is in its pilot year of a campus-wide service learning program. Service learning is experience-based learning that uses real-world projects to serve the community. By making these connections, it integrates meaningful community engagement and course content. We developed a program that connects the university with one city, annually. Participating university programs include geology, branding, engineering, and economics. Every program in the college is also participating: interior design, architecture and landscape architecture.

The comprehensive interior design studio is working with this County's Health Department. Through design and coordination with the public health program, we will attempt to improve the efficiency of clinical areas and administrative spaces. The design solutions will be used to assist in renovation fundraising efforts. Working on a design project, with a "real" client provides students with a studio experience that mirrors practice. These real-world projects elevate the level of scholarship, provide opportunities to develop professional relationships and provide a service to the community. The initiative has provided the college, the university and the city with an opportunity collaborate on a common goal: creating a healthy cities. Through interdisciplinary research and scholarship, community dialogue, human capacity, and innovation, we are collaborating toward the pursuit of smarter, more vibrant communities.

The audience for this session would be any educator who is interested in developing a university-wide service learning initiative. The purpose and objectives of the session are to examine intangible learning outcomes of the related courses and assess lessons-learned for forthcoming partnerships.