

ARCH 484/584

Architectural Design

Summer 2020

MTWR 8:00A - 11:50A

# Room For Hope

Instructor: Tom Hahn

**Inquiry:** The history of compassionate housing associated with health-care facilities, for families facing a health-crisis of a loved one, goes back many decades into the last century. Originally focused on families of very ill children, the programs then expanded to the families of veterans, and now to families of the ill of any age or background. More recently, with a growing sense of compassion for the healthcare workers themselves in times of health crisis, healthcare facilities are exploring ways to provide for short-term housing for their staff when events, such as the current pandemic, call for nearly constant on-duty shift-cycles. In both of these cases, those facing intense healthcare situations are brought together in impromptu ways, in often unforeseen circumstances, and uncertain outcomes. As such, they are in need of a place to find personal space and solace, that also allows for opportunities to be together with others in similar situations, all in settings that can foster peace and community even when contagions force the social to be at a distance.

This studio will explore the architectural implications and opportunities that arise in creating designs to support emotional and physical health during times of health crises, whether at the personal and family level, or at the community or national scale. In addition, as human health is closely tied with healthful built environments, and with the health of the greater environment, the studio will explore a wide-range of issues of environmental sustainability, incorporating those ideas not only as functional and practical elements, but also exploring how those elements can inform, and even become, the architecture itself, while also analyzing, documenting and detailing the solutions in a structured way for presentation.

**Project:** The project for the studio will be the design of a multi-family, multi-story facility intended primarily as short- to medium-term housing units for families of patients at a community hospital, as well as associated support spaces for community gathering, cooking, dining and living. The facility will also include several units dedicated to short-term incidental housing for medical staff at the hospital that are in need of respite accommodations when working with situations that require them to be at the hospital for extended periods of time. In addition, the facility will be designed to be flexible and resilient such that it can be used both entirely for medical staff, or quickly adapted to overflow or quarantine patient use, in times where the hospital is responding to broader natural disaster, pandemic or other large-scale emergent situations.

**Format:** The studio will be taught through an online learning environment, using virtual studio spaces for group and individual student work, built around a robust integration of digital, real-time interactive whiteboards, and parallel web-conferencing for audio and video interaction. Students are asked to be available throughout scheduled studio class hours, as a portion of the class will be done interactively and synchronously; however, much of the work will be based around exercises and assignments that can be done off-line and asynchronously. The studio will include a combination of readings, presentations, and virtual "field trips" or dialogues with outside project-related parties, in addition to large- and small-group and individual discussions about project conception, design, development and documentation, within the virtual design studio structure.

Projects will also be developed under the guidelines of one of the major environmental design evaluation methods, as selected by the student: LEED, LBC, AIA-COTE Framework for Design Excellence, or Passive House Design. If developed under the COTE framework, projects may be entered in this year's COTE Top Ten for Students competition. If the project is done in conjunction with taking the Summer course ARCH 410/510 "Passive House Design & Details", students may be able to gain Certified Passive House Consultant (CPHC) professional certification.



Patch.com - Hackerman-Patz House



Bruce Damonte - Grand Family House



Bruce Damonte - Grand Family House



St. Patrick's House - Providence Health



Fabio De Paola - The Guardian