

My second midterm went better than expected; I was able to explain my vision for the sky scrapper fairly well and received multiple directions to move forward in. One of the most important critiques mentioned was that “I” as a designer was focusing on too many ideas and needed to narrow down my ideas in order to have a stronger building intent.

Currently my building structure is unresolved however, I am headed in a direction to allow to structure to interact with activities happening within the building as well as contributing to the essence of the environment. At the moment, Shanghai Tower is a building similar to my own that uses two parts: A Mega Frame and various continuous Outriggers at different heights. The Mega frame holds the horizontal weight while the outriggers support against lateral loads.

As for the community in my building, creating habitable community clusters that support human interactions and support spaces for activities has been at the core of my design. The intent to nourish the individual as well as communities at the macro and micro-scale. In addition, my design has also shifted a bit more to incorporate animals. While we create more and more houses for humans to live, we destroy hundreds of homes that belong to other living creatures we share the planet with. With that in mind, my tower is not only to house communities but to allow people and native animals to live with one another. A part of this is to create open spaces for birds to fly around or bees to pollenate flowers, etc. The point is, as one of my critics advices, to include animals without restricting their contribution to nature.

At the moment, the interaction between the building and its urban surroundings is weak. With the exception of a framed view, there is little urban context that the building provides (that isn't part of the program).

After conducting a sun analysis on my site and building, it became one of the most important elements in designing my building. Depending on where the building received the most light/shade or radiation affected the locations of community spaces and the residential.