ONLINE EDUCATION: TEACHING IN A TIME OF CHANGE

- Paper / Proposal Title:
  Studio I on a sticky note: Reimagining traditional methods within digital platforms

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- Abstract (300 words):
  During the 2020 fall semester of the Covid-19 pandemic, an introductory interior architecture and design Studio I class initially comprised a combination of face-to-face (F2F) and synchronous remote groups. This newly accepted cohort of thirty-six had not yet established relationships among their peers. Course objectives focused heavily on scaled hand drawings and physical model building techniques with exercises orienting novice designers to programming activities, accessibility codes, and the application of fundamental space planning processes. Project deliverables, coupled with the importance of creating a foundation for teacher-to-student and student-to-student connections, drove the decision for partial in-person instruction. Course preparation recognized that the tangible deliverables required a shift to a digital transmission method without compromising handcrafted content. Early weeks of teaching proved that providing parity to students presented challenges, as discussions alternated between those appearing remotely and others behind plexiglasses and masks. A move to fully remote instruction within the first few weeks necessitated the further revision of pedagogical practices, delivery methods, and communication techniques.
Methods were employed to re-envision presentation materials by marrying hand sketches with digital software. New evaluation strategies guided the analysis of physical models throughout the semester, while photography and screen sharing facilitated discussions of the spatial and volumetric components in progress. Zoom Breakout rooms fostered peer review opportunities and enabled student choice.

This presentation will discuss a comparative analysis of teaching techniques and outcomes between those taught in a previous semester and during the pandemic. It will also describe the instructor’s perception of the students’ cognitive ability to connect with the course material remotely and reflect on the emotional and social outcomes observed from interacting with the cohort.

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Kelley Robinson, RID, ASID, IDEC, LEED Green Associate, is an assistant professor in the Interior Architecture & Design Department at Florida State University and a registered interior designer in Florida and Georgia. She is also the founder and president of Workshop 131, Inc., an architecture and interior design studio located in Tallahassee, Florida. She teaches 2nd year undergraduate students both Studio AutoCAD I. Kelley is the past president of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Florida North board and is a member of the Florida Joint Taskforce concerning interior design regulatory matters. Her research focuses on the study of COVID-19’s impact on the patterns and design of domestic spaces. Her article, “How Will Our Spaces Change as We Continue to Practice Social Distancing?” was recently published in interiors+sources in May of 2020.