In August 2009, the College of Design dedicated the most recent, and most ambitious, addition to its facility—the $6.6 million, 23,735-gross-square foot King Pavilion. Named for Iowa State University alumni Steve King (BLA 1968 Landscape Architecture) and his late wife, Barb (BS 1968 Food Science), the King Pavilion was designed to meet the highest standards for building performance and sustainable design. RDG Planning & Design, Des Moines, led the project. Others on the design team included Conservation Design Forum, Elmhurst, Ill.; Charles Curt, Engineering Economics Inc., Red Wing, Minn.; Holabird & Root, Rochester, Minn.; Charles Saul Engineering, Des Moines; Stecker-Harmsen, Ames, and The Weidt Group, Minnetonka, Minn.

“Part of the dream of the King Pavilion was to foster teaching and learning about integrated design,” said Phil Hodgin (BArch 1982 Architecture), principal with RDG. “We saw this as an opportunity to pull together all the disciplines in a fully integrated design process that would mirror what the college is teaching.”

Having an integrated team of architects, landscape architects, engineers and energy consultants working together from the start was critical to designing and constructing a successful green building, Hodgin said.

That approach was rewarded in February when the King Pavilion earned LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification by the U.S. Green Building Council, the highest rating the council gives to energy-efficient and high-performing buildings. It was the first higher education building in Iowa to achieve LEED Platinum status, and one of only eight in the United States at the time.

“The King Pavilion provides a welcoming entrance to the College of Design and a showcase for sustainable design principles. It was the first higher education building in Iowa to achieve LEED Platinum certification. Photo by Alison Weidemann.”

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In the King Pavilion, designers have brought together scientific knowledge and technical innovations to create an environment that inspires and supports our academic activities—a space both poetic and pragmatic,” said Luis Rico-Gutierrez, dean of Design. “That is the power of design, and a tangible example of what faculty, students and staff in the College of Design stand for.”

How King Pavilion scored
A total of 69 points is possible at the highest end of the Platinum category. The College of Design submitted 57 points for approval and earned 53, including three exemplary performance points for exceeding LEED requirements for daylighting, water efficiency and recycled content.

Clerestory windows on both levels of the building as well as a light monitor helped the King Pavilion achieve 100 percent daylighting, far above the LEED requirement of 75 percent. Dual-flush toilets, automatic sink faucets and ultra-low-flow urinals reduce the amount of water consumed by 50 percent over regular fixtures. And by using 75 percent recycled steel, recycled denim insulation and restroom countertops made from 100 percent post-consumer recycled paper, the design team was able to achieve 32 percent recycled content in the facility.

In addition to these features, sensors throughout the facility monitor occupancy and light levels and automatically turn lights on and off as needed. In part because of this,
Designotes is published three times per year (spring, summer, fall) by the Iowa State University College of Design and mailed to 13,200 alumni and friends.

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KING PAVILION SETS GREEN EXAMPLE (continued from cover)

as well as occupancy sensors that adjust the temperature and ventilation when the space is not occupied, the King Pavilion is 42 percent more energy efficient than a code-compliant building.

“According to our energy model, the King Pavilion will save a little more than $22,000 per year in energy—about $1 per square foot—over a code baseline,” said Michael Andresen (BArch 2005 Architecture), RDG project manager and the LEED Accredited Professional on the project.

Another major component of the new facility, designed by Conservation Design Forum (CDF), is its extensive green roof, also one of the first in Iowa. The roof serves a number of sustainable purposes: it helps reduce the “heat island” effect in the summer, prevents up to 80 percent of rain and snowmelt from flowing into storm sewers as runoff, and requires little maintenance or repair.

CDF provided all site development services for the King Pavilion project, including work with site utilities and grading as well as paths, patios and landscaping, in addition to the green roof.

“The King Pavilion is a great example of an infill project: it redeveloped a previously developed site,” said Jason Cooper, CDF project manager for the King Pavilion. “It gave us an opportunity to rethink design strategies and reduce significantly the amount of impervious surface on the site, to mitigate the total amount of water leaving the site and reduce the release rate.

“We also tried to display water, to show where it’s moving from and where it’s going. The worst thing is to have it disappear and people don’t know or think about it,” he said. “With the King Pavilion, we tried to artfully display the path of water leaving the roof down the rain chains and in the decorative runnels that direct the water through the site when it does rain.”

“A really nice feature is that the whole site is incorporated into the building. Every square inch of this site was taken into consideration as part of the building concept, whether to do with views, orientation, stormwater management or landscaping,” said Bill Dreyer (BArch 1968 Architecture), RDG project manager. “It’s not a building put on a site, it’s a building and site concept as one.”

Impact of green building
The new facility houses four first-year Core Design Program studios and three second-year interior design studios on the ground floor, with seven second-year architecture and landscape architecture studios on the top floor.

“It struck me on the first day of class when we were showing students around, the great potential in that building to exemplify an ecological sensibility to the environment,” said Ann Sobiech-Munson, director of the core program. “You can point out the green roof, demonstrate which windows open, show how the sensors turn the lights on and off. For new students coming to a design school to see this space sets a tone that’s really positive.

“We used reclaimed materials in the first core studio project of each semester to reinforce the ethics of design sustainability,” she continued. “We want students to be aware of the materials they’re using, where they were manufactured and how. As a teaching and learning facility, the King Pavilion will be an excellent example of sustainable practices.”

Bevan’s Variety Cranesbill Geraniums highlight the Anamosa limestone-edged blue stone runnels that direct excess surface water from garden areas to infiltration trenches that run through the King Pavilion site.

Hot-desk studios provide greater flexibility to support collaborative projects in the Core Design Program. Photo by Alison Weidemann.
Katherine (Kathie) Paape Gibbs has been fortunate to combine her love of horses, art and teaching in a career spanning more than three decades.

When Gibbs joined the ISU art and design faculty in fall 1978, she taught beginning drawing classes and supervised student teachers in the art education program. She taught art ed until 1995, then served as the drawing/painting/printmaking coordinator for several years and was co-director of the integrated studio/visual arts programs from 2002 to 2004.

She served on the Focus grant committee for 20 years and advised more than 30 students on their Focus projects. She also served as major professor for many graduate students.

For the past two decades, however, her emphasis has been on teaching the sophomore, senior and graduate-level drawing courses. Gibbs received a College of Design Faculty Award for Extraordinary Performance in 1986 and an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Iowa General Assembly in 1989.

Gibbs’ work has been exhibited in numerous national, regional and local exhibitions, and is part of several public and personal art collections. A horse lover and owner, she explored equine imagery from graduate school through the early 1990s. Most recently, she has been painting landscapes and “extreme weather events” such as tornadoes and tsunamis.

Gibbs retired from ISU in May, but she will keep working as an artist. The new home she and her husband, Monte, are building northwest of Ames will include an art studio.

“I’m going to need a couple of years to refocus on what I can do and what I have a desire to do, but I know it will somehow be connected to animals, nature and the land,” she said.

Gibbs also plans to spend time riding her purebred Percheron, Jedi, and training their black-and-white English cocker spaniel puppy, Molly. And she and Monte will continue to cheer on the Cyclone football and basketball teams.

Gibbs is ready for this next phase of her life and work, but she will miss the interaction with colleagues and students. “I love the students. They’re motivated and hardworking. I’ll miss that relationship of watching them grow as young artists.”


In addition to teaching, Grundmann has served as secretary of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture and editor of the CELA forum on education for the past 12 years. He received two CELA President’s Awards for exemplary service in 2001 and 2005 and was elected a Fellow in 2006.

Grundmann was president of the Iowa Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1976 and 1993, and served on the national ASLA Archives Committee from 1998 to 2005. He received the Iowa ASLA President’s Award in 2010. In the mid-1990s he was the Iowa director for the Save Outdoor Sculpture project, a nationwide program that provided grant money to identify and inventory outdoor sculpture in each state.

Grundmann has also conducted extensive research, written several papers and presented a number of lectures on landscape architect Warren H. Manning. He is now involved with the Warren Manning Research Project, conducted by the Library of American Landscape History, to develop a two-volume book on Manning’s life and work.

“Grundmann has also conducted extensive research, written several papers and presented a number of lectures on landscape architect Warren H. Manning. He is now involved with the Warren Manning Research Project, conducted by the Library of American Landscape History, to develop a two-volume book on Manning’s life and work.”

He and his wife, Tari, are considering moving to Wisconsin, where they have a lake home and where he may pursue cooperative work with the University of Wisconsin-Madison and UW-Milwaukee. He is also looking forward to spending more time with family.

BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN PRACTICE AND EDUCATION

NADIA ANDERSON

At Iowa State, Nadia Anderson is putting to good use the skills she honed as project manager for huge structures like a 100,000-square-foot, undulating glass-and-steel atrium in downtown Warsaw, Poland. That’s because she needs the same poise, perception and sheer perseverance to demonstrate that low-income housing in Iowa can be both affordable and sustainable.

Anderson is an assistant professor of architecture and ISU Extension architecture and community design specialist. After practicing architecture in Chicago and Europe for 11 years, she took a break in 2005 to pursue another passion: teaching.

“I wanted to explore broader issues of how social inequity can be overcome through sustainable design. There wasn’t much opportunity for that in private practice,” said Anderson, who has a bachelor’s degree from Yale University and a master of architecture from the University of Pennsylvania.

A class that connects
Once settled on campus, Anderson made quick work of it. She and colleague Jason Alread won an American Institute of Architects Practice Academy pilot programs grant in 2006. They proposed a new class—the Bridge Studio—to “build bridges” between sustainability and affordability; design and community; and practice and education. And it does just that. The Bridge Studio brings together upper-level students, architects, contractors, government agencies, community organizations and residents of low-income neighborhoods to develop prototypes for affordable, energy-efficient, single-family housing.

“It’s basically a project manager, like I was in practice. But this has a lot of meaning for me and that’s the difference,” Anderson said. “This is something that I hope has a big impact.”

After only four semesters, the class attracted national recognition. In 2009, the Bridge Studio received the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards’ $25,000 Grand Prize for Creative Integration of Practice and Education in the Academy. And it earned the U.S. Green Building Council’s Excellence in Green Building Education Recognition Award.

Blending studio and community
The studio’s first project, a house on Forest Avenue in Des Moines, was designed by students and built by the Community Housing Development Corp. The 1,200-square-foot, energy-efficient house with an open floor plan is for sale, listed at $119,000.

Following the floods of 2008, the director of the Iowa Finance Authority asked the Bridge Studio to create a prototype of a sustainable, affordable house for flood victims.

“We looked at modular prefab construction, because the ‘boxes’ essentially could be built fast over the winter and installed relatively quickly on the site,” Anderson said. The students presented their designs to the Cedar Rapids housing task force; discussions to develop the prototypes are ongoing.

Needs to fit the neighborhood
Initially, Anderson’s students presented designs for a house, not housing. They created boxy houses with flat roofs that “looked really cool, like something you’d see in a magazine.” But clients wanted something that “looks like a house” and fits into the neighborhood. Anderson needed to convince her frustrated students that their design is part of a bigger system.

“This is not just about the unique thing that they’re making. It’s about the replicable model,” she said. “The thing that’s unique is how to make the system work better.”

A home for Corning
This semester, Anderson and her students worked on a project in Corning (pop. 1,700) that was brought to them via ISU Extension.

“The people of Corning are very motivated to learn how they can reinvent their community to be a more viable place,” she said. “And a small group is especially interested in seeing how sustainable thinking, building and living can contribute to that.”

While Anderson is marshaling the larger, long-term project with the community, her students have designed a 1,000-square-foot, single-story, two bedroom, energy-efficient house that costs $120,000 or less to build and can be replicated on multiple sites.

Students presented designs to residents three times this spring, and shared their experiences on a blog, http://bridgestudiocorning.blogspot.com.

As part of the project, Anderson conducted research to estimate the house’s energy use. During construction, monitoring equipment will be installed to track actual energy use.

“Right now the attitude is that green is too expensive for affordable housing,” Anderson said. “Can we create a model that demonstrates that, in fact, this approach is actually a cost saver?”
UNESCO WORKSHOP

A series of connections among Iowa State University alumni, an architecture professor and an international workshop recently afforded a group of design students an extraordinary learning opportunity.

Associate professor Dan Naegele and five fifth-year architecture students—Andrew Conzett, Omaha, Neb.; Max Mahaffey, St. Charles, Ill.; Brian Moore, Eau Claire, Wis.; Brent Nie, Jesup; and Mike Wenzinger, Manassas, Va.—traveled to Vietnam to participate in the UNESCO Chair International Workshop and Symposium on the Social Sustainability of Historical Districts in Hanoi. Jan. 20–29.

The travel-study trip was structured as a special three-credit course titled Vernacular Architecture and Southeast Asia. “The primary purpose was to investigate the possibilities of vernacular architecture in a rapidly changing urban environment,” Naegele said.

This experience was made possible largely through the efforts of Bosuk Hur (BArch 2005 / MArch 2006 Architecture), an architect with South Korean firm Space Group, who co-sponsored the UNESCO event in Hanoi. The ISU group also spent some time in South Korea on its ingoing and outgoing itinerary to Vietnam.

The ISU group joined peers and colleagues in planning and architecture from five other universities in Vietnam, China, India and South Korea at the event, which involved a series of intensive charrettes, reviews and lectures and culminated in a student design competition.

The workshop focused on historical districts in Hanoi’s old center that have lost their cultural connection with society through modernization and was aimed at finding a compromise between preservation and redevelopment. Four teams of three students each were assembled to work on four charrette projects (16 teams total, four per project site).

Conzett’s group looked at ways to restore a sense of identity and historical character to a public plaza. Mahaffey’s group examined opportunities to make a network of streets in the historic district more pedestrian-friendly and help revive the traditional street culture.

Moore’s and Nie’s teams both addressed improvements to an enclosed public market that had been rebuilt after a fire in a style inconsistent with the historic neighborhood.

Wenzinger’s group developed a new model for the existing city block structure that would address population density and residents’ limited access to commerce on the street.

The workshop and competition were set up so that U.S. and Indian students—those whose language of instruction is English—assumed leadership roles. Teams communicated through drawings, diagrams and translation programs on their laptops or cell phones.

There were two preliminary presentations of the work in which all professors, including Naegele, served as reviewers. At the final review, all 16 projects were numerically scored, and a top project for each site was chosen. Two ISU students—Mahaffey and Moore—were on teams that received awards.

In addition to the workshop and competition, the ISU group had the opportunity to explore and learn more about their host countries. In Vietnam, they visited the University of Civil Engineering, the Ancient Quarter and French Quarter of Hanoi, and recent housing construction just outside Hanoi.

Naegele and the students had an 18-hour layover in Seoul to and from Hanoi. On the inbound trip, alumna June Hae Lee (BArch 2009 Architecture) provided a tour of part of the city, the Space Group office and the Imperial Palace, and took them to dinner at a renowned restaurant.

On their return, Bosuk Hur traveled with the group from Hanoi to Seoul and provided a tour of additional parts of the city and lunch at a traditional Korean restaurant. They also visited a Catholic church designed by Space Group and a museum designed in three parts by three world-famous architects.

Back at ISU, the rest of the semester was devoted to lectures and discussions about what the group learned during the trip. The students created photo essays to document different aspects of their experience, and each designed a stool completely out of paper based on studying the sitting positions and social interactions they witnessed in Vietnam.

“My expectation was that some understanding of ‘otherness’ and ‘we are only one of many’ might be achieved on this trip. I believed that just being there would facilitate this belief,” Naegele said. “That was probably so, but more and more the students talked of the value of working together on teams composed of students from other lands, students who thought differently than themselves about the task at hand.

“The realization of the value of ‘other thought’—though hardly planned by me—far exceeded my expectations.”

Read more of this story at www.design.iastate.edu/stories.php?ARTICLEID=347.
Adam Olson and Andrew Kraemer, seniors in landscape architecture, won first place and $1,000 in the Park Pride International Student Design Competition sponsored by Park Pride Atlanta.

Olson, of Hudson, and Kraemer, of St. Louis, created their “Knoll Park” design last fall in associate professor Bill Grundmann’s community design studio. Classmate Stacie Ellickson, Cedar Rapids, won an honorable mention for her design, “Loblolly Ridge Park.”

Thirty-three entries were submitted to the competition. The jury included Atlanta-area landscape architecture faculty and practitioners, and residents of the suburban neighborhood where the park site is located.

Olson and Kraemer’s design for the 13.3-acre park features a boardwalk across an existing lake, trails, sculptures, several family-sized gathering spots, a labyrinth, a pavilion, a rain garden and open recreational space. Several images of their design are online at www.parkpride.org/get-involved/events/conference/content/1.knollpark_low.pdf.

Design requirements called for analyzing the demographics of the park’s service area and proposing a design that serves all sectors of the actual population, addresses cultural preferences, requires no resident staff and restrains operations and construction costs. Students were not allowed to visit the site. They were able to use the county’s demographic data and master plan report.

After their analysis, Olson and Kraemer presented preliminary concepts in a review with a local landscape architect. They developed one concept and presented it again to local practitioners. Based on feedback, they refined their design for submission to the competition.

“The hardest part was to get all the pieces that we wanted in the design to flow together into one park,” Olson said. “We utilized the vegetation and earthwork mounds to create space, removing the necessity for architectural structures and solving that issue,” he said.

“One of the coolest things was to get feedback from outside,” Kraemer said. “It’s nice to have a different point of view. And when a practitioner compliments your work, it’s a real confidence booster!” Olson agreed. “This entire process has been really gratifying. We’re leaving ISU with a bang!” Both students graduated with bachelor of landscape architecture degrees in May.

Members of the architecture Class of 1965 have launched an effort to establish an endowed faculty fellowship to honor professor emeritus Vernon Stone, who taught fifth-year undergraduate and graduate students from 1959 to 1985 at Iowa State University.

“Stone played a very significant role in our education at Iowa State,” said 1965 graduate Jim Lammers, who, with former classmate Bill Roe, is leading the fundraising effort. “He held high expectations for design excellence and gave us an introduction to the realities of architectural practice.”

The Class of 1965 has pledged a majority of the nearly $28,000 raised so far toward the $150,000 goal for the Vernon Stone Endowed Fund.

“The fellowship will be important in bringing outstanding faculty to the campus and maintaining the quality of one of the finest architecture programs in the United States,” Lammers said.

Fellowships help recognize the leadership potential of talented faculty members and encourage them to pursue new research, grow in their disciplines and integrate new ideas into the classroom. Fellowships produce long-term rewards for students and faculty alike because they promote the higher level of excellence that is the hallmark of teaching and learning at Iowa State.

Alumni who graduated in 1965 are now reaching out to members of other classes for additional support. To contribute, please go to www.foundation.iastate.edu/stone.

“As we look back on our education in architecture at Iowa State in the 1960s, we realize that it propelled us into rewarding careers from which we have profited in many ways. The Department of Architecture today continues that tradition of quality,” Lammers said.

“Launching the Stone fund initiative is one way to contribute to the program’s ongoing success while honoring a professor who had a profound impact on us.”
Friends, family, Iowa State University classmates and faculty gathered outside the College of Design on April 22 to remember graphic design student Jonathan Francis Lacina. Members of the ISU community joined Lacina’s parents, Tom and Alesia, and brother, Joe, in a memorial ceremony and the planting of a red oak tree in Lacina’s memory.

Lacina, 21, of Grinnell, was the focus of an exhaustive search after he was reported missing from the Iowa State campus in late January. His body was found April 14 in an outlying building on the former ISU Dairy Farm south of campus. The manner and cause of death have yet to be determined.

Lacina had been in his third year studying graphic design at Iowa State.

At the ISU memorial ceremony, Tom Lacina noted that his son maintained a passion for art, music, nature, Legos, video games and great food throughout his life. “Jon felt at home at Iowa State and was excited about improving his art,” he said.

Assistant professor Paul Bruski, who taught one of Lacina’s sophomore graphic design classes, told those gathered that in faculty recollections of Lacina, three strong themes emerged: “his quiet and wry sense of humor; his eye for detail, especially in his drawings and sketches; and that he knew what he wanted to do with his designs and he went for it.

“We will all remember his bright, friendly smile, and we are all honored to have worked with him as his instructors,” Bruski said.

Close friend Parker Peterson of Callendar, who spoke on behalf of the graphic design junior class, said Lacina was an amazing friend and talented artist. “You will always be in our hearts, Jon, and you will forever be an inspiration to us. We love you.”

Memorial donations may be made to the Jon Lacina Arts Fund at the Grinnell Area Arts Council, PO Box 657, Grinnell, IA 50112.

Charles E. “Chick” Herbert (BS 1951 Architectural Engineering), FAIA, 84, of Des Moines and Brookfield, Wis., died April 24 in Des Moines.

Herbert had a profound impact on the built environment of Iowa through his more than 50 years of leadership and innovation in architectural design. In Des Moines in 1961, he founded Charles Herbert and Associates, which later became Herbert Lewis Kruse Blunk Architecture (HLKB).

Under Herbert’s leadership, HLKB grew into one of the leading architectural firms in the U.S.; among a host of state, regional and national design awards, it received the National AIA Firm Award from the American Institute of Architects in 2001—an unprecedented accomplishment for a modest Midwestern firm. Herbert retired as firm principal in 1996.

Herbert’s collection of award-winning architecture includes such notable projects as the Civic Center and Meredith Corporation Headquarters in Des Moines, and the College of Design building and Parks Library addition at Iowa State University.

“Chick’s overwhelming success came from empowering others, giving them opportunities to learn and grow, even to err along the way,” said Cal Lewis, one of Herbert’s early proteges who was a principal with HLKB for 30 years and is now chair of the ISU department of architecture.

“He became the ultimate architectural resource for our community leaders; they respected, trusted and listened to him.”

Herbert was invested as a Fellow of the AIA in 1976. He received the ISU College of Engineering’s Professional Achievement Citation for Architecture in 1975, the College of Design’s Christian Petersen Design Award in 1985, and the ISU Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2007.

Herbert was a member of the Order of the Knoll, ISU’s most prestigious donor recognition society, and had served as president of the National Cyclone Club.

A public memorial service was held May 3 in Des Moines. Memorial contributions may be made in Herbert’s honor to the Des Moines Art Center, where he had been a past president and honorary trustee.
Eight Iowa State University art students and recent graduates will exhibit their work as Emerging Iowa Artists at the Des Moines Arts Festival, June 25-27 in Western Gateway Park.

The Emerging Iowa Artists program provides an opportunity for 24 young visual artists to showcase their talent at one of the nation’s top arts festivals, which annually attracts more than 200,000 visitors.

Emerging artists from ISU this year include seniors Brian Dreesman, Waukee, and Ryan Gibson, Ames, who will graduate in May; 2009 graduates Andrew Clarridge, Story City; Jon Lemons, Waukee; Amy McAfee, Ames; Julie Solberg, Eagan, Minn.; and Christian Vandehaar, Altoona; and 2008 graduate Fumi Ikeshima, Ames, all of whom received bachelor of fine arts degrees in integrated studio arts.

Dreesman will exhibit wood and metal furniture, such as lamps and coffee tables, and some small-scale metal work, including sculptures, rings and pendants.

“A lot of my work relates to the juxtaposition of natural and mechanical qualities, the contrast of wood against metal or found objects against the sleekness of wood and metal,” he said. “I try to keep the design simple but use an element that gives each piece a narrative.”

Gibson will display both traditional black-and-white and color digital photography featuring landscapes and architectural elements.

“I try to work with what is already there and draw attention to something,” Gibson said. “I take my camera and wander until I find something interesting, then move around it until it creates a composition in the window.”

More information on the Des Moines Arts Festival and this year’s Emerging Iowa Artists is online at www.desmoinesartsfestival.com/artists/emerging_iowa_artists.php.