

Groups race deadline in design competition

Architecture students and local practitioners teamed up for a local design competition

By Teri Meeuwsen
Higher Education Reporter

Seven groups of architecture students and local practitioners frantically brainstormed last weekend as part of the second annual Jack Stafford Memorial Student-Practitioner Design Charette.

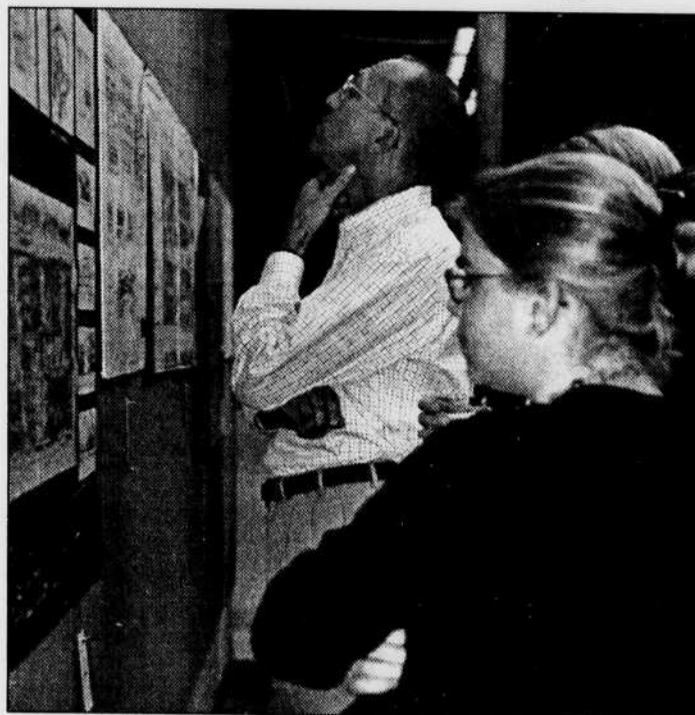
During a public viewing and discussion Wednesday night, three groups received recognition for their design ideas for a 5.8-acre site near the edge of the City's Northern Urban Boundary off Coburg Road. The City of Eugene recently purchased the site.

"They'll probably be building out there anyway, so the charette was a good way to generate ideas," said architect major Eduardo Ponce, a member of the third-place group.

A charette is an intense design competition under deadline. This time the deadline was two days for a project that would usually take much longer.

The main requirement for each entry was to focus on how higher-density housing can be designed to contribute to a good neighborhood.

For example, the groups saw how an eight-unit, low-income housing project relates to a single-family house or duplex, while creating a community without becoming isolated. The spaces around the buildings, such as streets, outdoor rooms, natural areas and parking, were



WENDY FULLER/Emerald

Onlookers view architectural plans on display in the Collier House Wednesday evening. The project, called a charette, is an intense design competition under deadline.

also taken into consideration.

The first-place group included one planning student, two architect students, one member from planning management and four practitioners from WBSG Architecture and Planning.

"We're delighted," architect Jan Fillingier said. "We're jumping up and down. We had a lot of debates ... at noon we finally said we had to start drawing and worked on it until 2 a.m., and then again the next day right up until deadline. We were racing

by car to get here. It was so intense." An award of \$300 was given to the first-place entry, \$200 for second place and \$100 for third place. Design awards were decided by a panel of judges that included one student, a professor from the architecture department, a professor from the landscape architecture department, a local practitioner and a member from City Planning.

"We wanted to design a way to see how housing can be better," said Mildred White, co-president

of the American Institute of Architect Students. "We were not trying to build buildings, but how they relate to each other on a site."

The institute helped fund and plan the charette, but the Southwestern Oregon chapter of the American Institute of Architects was the main planning group. The School of Architecture and Allied Arts, EWEB, the Lane Council of Governments and the City of Eugene also funded the event.

Landscape architecture Professor Cynthia Gerling, who was one of the judges, said the seven entries tried to meet all of the panel's requirements but not all of them did.

The groups were given site information on Friday afternoon and had roughly 42 hours to enter their design ideas.

"We were working on our project frantically all night," Ponce said. "I was up until 3 a.m. with it. We turned it in at 2:01 — we were so close."

Besides the cash prizes, the charette also helped students and local practitioners get in touch with each other and build relationships, White said. Most of the groups had the help of local practitioners, but not all of the teams included them.

"It's improving every year," White said. "There were more participants this year and more practitioners that could intermingle with each other."

All of the entries will be on display in the Student Hearth in Lawrence Hall from Nov. 8 to Nov. 16.

Senate funds urinal screens

By Kristina Rudinskas
Student Activities Reporter

The Student Senate meeting on Wednesday was full of urinal screens, finances and talk of change.

The Senate voted 16-2 to allocate \$72 to the ASUO for the remaining balance on dozens of apple-scented, green urinal screens with the rape awareness slogan: "You hold the power to stop rape in your hand." The screens are in the EMU, fraternities and residence halls.

ASUO Vice President Ben Unger apologized for the oversight in budgeting. Greek Life and the Residence Halls used more screens than they had funded, he explained.

"The residence halls agreed to put them in, but didn't want to pay for them," Unger said. Greek Life paid \$150 for screens in every fraternity house.

The ASUO did not have enough funds to cover the additional \$72 after they had paid \$200 for the screens.

The screens are the latest attempt to educate students about rape on campus. Ohio State University did a similar campaign last year, Unger said.

"It is more about how men can stop the rape culture, instead of having women protect themselves," he said. "The problem on campus is University-wide. One in four women will be a survivor of sexual assault."

The Senate also voted unanimously to fund the salary of a new attorney for the Office of Student Advocacy.

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