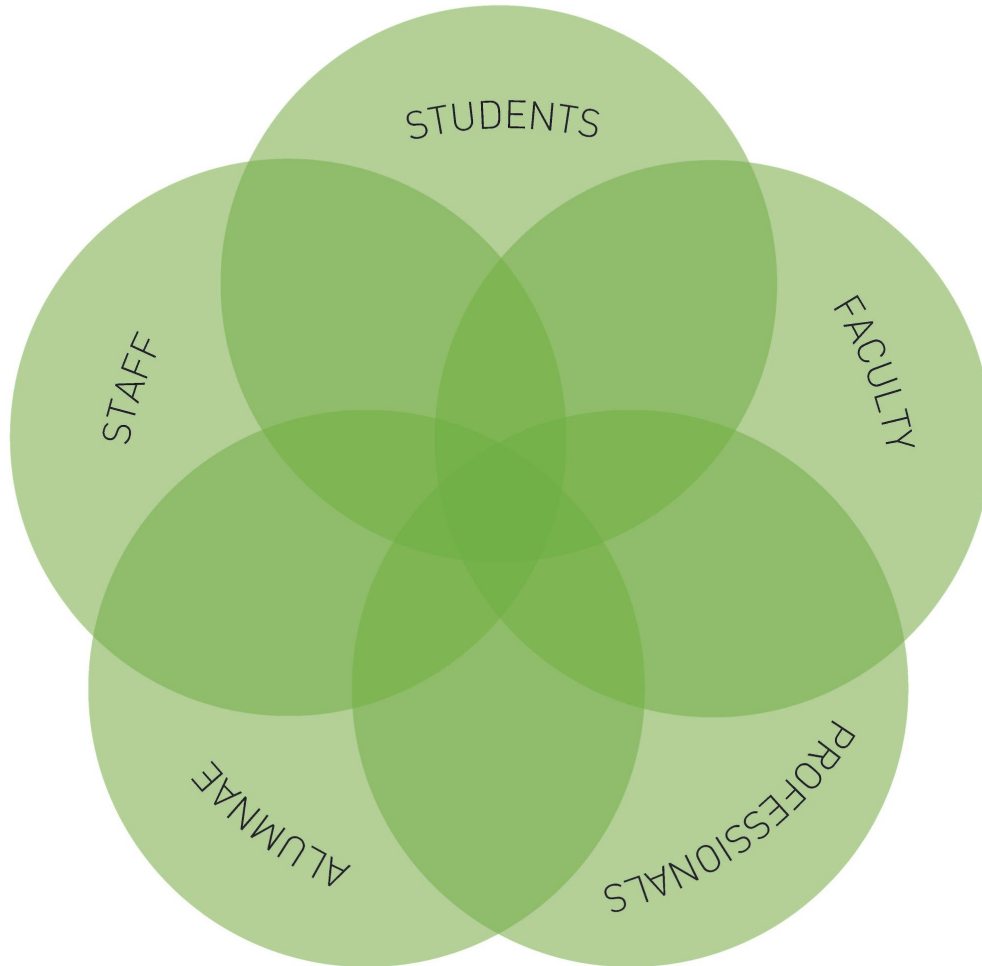


LEARNING CULTURE AND VALUES STATEMENT 05.16.2021

Students, faculty, and staff of the College and Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Design (CoA) at Washington University in St. Louis believe that an empowering environment for learning is fundamental to a holistic design education. **The CoA supports a culture defined by integration and collaboration across a myriad of disciplines, identities, and learning styles utilizing a variety of design processes and methods.** This provides and encourages diverse avenues for creative and critical thought, ensuring that the CoA is a place of continued innovation and experimentation in support of a wide range of professional, social, and personal aspirations. The pressing environmental and social challenges of the 21st century are embedded in our values and are central to our design, scholarship, and practice. **We envision the following statement to be a living document revisited bi-annually and displayed prominently.**

RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN A HOLISTIC DESIGN EDUCATION



Participants (students, faculty, professionals, alumnae, and staff) are:

ASPIRATIONAL - We design the world for future generations to excel. We operate optimistically and cross-disciplinarily within a complex landscape of opportunity **where we develop capacity and support innovation and speculation**. We take risks and challenge paradigms **as an obligation to the futures we design**.

COLLABORATIVE & INCLUSIVE - We support and defend the voices of students, faculty, and staff who represent a diversity of cultures, sexual orientations, religious beliefs, genders, races, abilities, and origins. We are stronger together than apart and work collectively, collaboratively, and compassionately both within and outside of our curricular tasks. We believe better solutions emerge when a range of ideas and experiences are included in the process.

ENGAGEMENT & IMPACT - We dedicate time and resources to consider what it means to be a good neighbor at home and abroad. We believe it is our responsibility to utilize our privilege and position for a more equitable and just world, for people and the environment. Our projects extend beyond the classroom and the timeline of the semester in recognition of a commitment to help solve complex real-world problems **with our community partners**.

ACCOUNTABILITY & AGENCY - We take responsibility for our learning in and out of the classroom knowing what we get out of our education is in direct proportion to what we put into it. We hold ourselves and each other accountable; we have high expectations and do what we say we're going to do. We shape our education and maximize our learning potential through critical engagement with each other, our curriculum, and our world.

RESPECT & FAIRNESS - Each participant is treated with dignity in line with their own aspirations and objectives. We commit to be our best selves, treating others as we would want to be treated, and believing in every person's potential for success. Each person's ideas and experiences are equivalent and should be valued as such.

EMPATHY - We aim to understand the needs, desires, and emotions of those who share our time and space. We prioritize the lives and experiences of people - today's, yesterday's and tomorrow's -- in our designs, in our curriculum, and in our communities.

INTEGRITY - We are honest in our individual and collaborative work. We recognize and acknowledge the support, inspiration, and references that we utilize in our world while staying true to individual thought. We respect the design intent of each designer and support the development of their unique voice by providing respectful commentary in support of individual creative growth.

BALANCE - We encourage all individuals to achieve a well-rounded life including a range of coursework, extracurricular activities, social and familial networks, sleep and nutrition, and physical and mental health.