



This curriculum development proposal will support the creation of a new, place-based version of a course originally created by Bob Hansman in 1999: *Community Building, Building Community* (CBBC) based on a Hewlett Foundation grant. This fall marks the fifth year he and Andrew Raimist have co-taught the course which has been under continuous evolutionary development its birth. CBBC addresses the St. Louis region as a whole introducing students to many neighborhoods in the metropolitan area suffering from the effects of segregation, disinvestment and abandonment. Our new course, *Community Building-North* (CBN), will focus on a particular neighborhood suffering from the ills plaguing much of North St. Louis City and provide an exceptional model for future university/community collaborations. The course would be offered in Spring semesters and be physically located in the community itself.

Course Content

The course will focus on community needs as identified *by the community itself*: residents, businesses, government, non-profits, churches and other neighborhood institutions. The key problems will emerge organically from an interactive, multifaceted collaboration bringing students and faculty into direct contact with local stakeholders rather than starting from a predetermined theoretical model or conceptual framework. The needs defined will be examined and analyzed in the context of the area's urban fabric, its history, demographics, geography, economics, social and cultural make up. These characteristics will establish an encompassing intellectual context for understanding present day reality as lived by people faced with very real challenges.

Our initial focus will be the Hamilton Heights neighborhood (St. Louis City Ward 22). Located two miles north of the Danforth Campus, it's easily accessible by bike, car and Metro bus (Bus #16 runs directly from Kayak's). As part of CBBC our students have worked here in many capacities. For CBN we will establish a physical location which is readily accessible to the public, most likely a storefront on Dr. Martin Luther King Drive. The Wellston Loop Historic District (three contiguous blocks) will be the focus for gathering community members and giving students the chance to participate in daily life and appreciate its rhythms and flavors. Each semester students will begin with listening and learning from the people and the place itself.

Community Stakeholders

While uncovering critical needs, we will document the ideas, thoughts and memories of representative neighborhood stakeholders through recorded interviews and photographs. This investigative process will begin during curriculum development, but continue as an integral part of the course itself. Questions posed will include addressing how the area can be equitably and sustainably revitalized to benefit existing residents while encouraging new investment. The aim will be stimulating economic revitalization without promoting gentrification. Instead the goal will be fostering a diverse, healthy, sustainable community. The course development, curriculum and syllabus will be drawn from these investigations. These documents will form key course materials and provide a locus for the collective memory of a place through collected documents,

artifacts, audio recordings, photographs, videos, etc. These investigations will be collected, curated and archived to form the kernel of a community cultural and historical repository.

We will develop practical, hands-on approaches to immerse students authentically. They will come to the neighborhood with a sense of humility asking to become part of social structure and seeking acceptance to contribute meaningfully to it. Rather than entering as outsiders from an academic vantage point with the intention of *taking something from the neighborhood*, we will establish a “home base” allowing students to participate in community life to the extent possible in a semester long course. Through asking questions and active listening, students will learn to appreciate the sensitivity and careful thought required for meaningful, positive action in distressed communities. As instructors we will provide a sense of commitment and continuous engagement from one semester to the next by working thoughtfully and strategically.

Collaborating Organizations

Our work will be grounded in working with established local groups that appreciate the particulars of working in this context. We will be working with the Hamilton Heights Neighborhood Association, Inc. (Shayvette Wayne-Jones, Director), Beloved Streets of America, Inc. (Melvin White, Founder) and Ward 22 Alderman Jeffrey Boyd. For many years, our CBBC students have been supporting these group’s efforts to improve conditions by designing outdoor spaces, establishing gardens, planting trees, organizing holiday gatherings, visiting older residents, improving buildings through renovations and planning for future revitalization efforts. Other students have interned with Alderman Boyd by addressing political and governmental efforts aimed at neighborhood improvement. We’ve undertaken urban design charrettes to explore the community’s potential while engaging its residents and stakeholders.

Historical Documentation

Irreplaceable archival photographs, maps and films documenting the area have been identified. We will make these materials available to the university library's archive. We're requesting a matching funds to cover acquisition and reproduction costs as well as for the videorecording and editing of interviews.

Historically the Wellston Loop commercial district grew up around the electrified streetcar system that brought shoppers from throughout the St. Louis region. Wellston Loop Station (a decaying, endangered National Historic Register structure) provided a central transfer point to other modes of transportation including commuter trains into St. Louis County like the important Kirkwood-Ferguson Streetcar Line. The street itself (formerly known as Easton Avenue) featured prominent department stores as well as many small service and craft-based businesses. In the early twentieth century it was a multi-ethnic community with a relative concentration of Orthodox Jews (after being displaced from downtown St. Louis). Synagogues and other traces of their cultural legacy remain but are fast disappearing, as are people who still remember it firsthand. Our investigation will capture oral histories of long-time residents who can fill in the spotty record of the area’s rise and fall as a premier shopping district in the 1950s and 1960s.

Course Aim

CBN will allow students to collaborate with area stakeholders for the betterment of the neighborhood as a whole while creating opportunities for invaluable educational lessons that can be learned in no other way. They will have the rare opportunity to meaningfully contribute to a community *based on its self-determined priorities*. The community itself will act as the client and students will be learning by doing in a way that challenges them intellectually, socially and personally. Their preconceptions about people, race, poverty and urban communities will be profoundly altered.

Resource Center

We will establish a “proof of concept” for bringing together rich educational opportunities with the hard realities that exist outside the campus walls. Our storefront location could eventually become a resource center providing education, training and tutoring of neighborhood children and others in need. Various WU programs could make use of the center as determined collaboratively with our partners. Initially CBN will be well-situated to collaborate with residents in sustainably growing the community through urban design, architecture, landscape architecture, arts and other programs through the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts.

Once established, an operating structure could be developed to create expansion opportunities as more resources become available through future grants and partnerships. University programs such as social work, law, medicine and business could take an active role in supporting local residents’ needs while providing students real world practical experience. Such offerings will benefit students and community alike by learning to work within the context of the limited resources and existing constraints rather than proposing solutions in an idealized theoretical vacuum.

Location Evaluation

In developing the curriculum, we will undertake a search for places to work in the neighborhood examining issues such as educational opportunities, community accessibility, facility requirements and expenses involved. Raimist is presently engaged as Architect for a historic preservation project seeking Federal and State tax credits to rehabilitate two adjacent buildings at 5736-5742 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive. It’s possible one of these buildings could serve as our neighborhood storefront location. We will investigate all available possibilities comparing them objectively.

Higher Education Collaboration

We will be working with two faculty from University of Missouri St. Louis (Todd Swanstrom, PhD and Mark Tranel, PhD) and one from Fontbonne University (Leslie Doyle). They will review the goals and intentions at the start of the project and then read, review and offer critiques during the curriculum development process.

Ferguson Academic Seed Fund
Grant Application Project Member & Invited Scholar Bio Sketch Form

Please complete an electronic copy of this for each member of your project team and for each invited scholar. You will be required to upload completed bio sketch forms on the grant application page. You may collate forms into a single document for ease of submission.

Invited Scholar: Team Member: Both:

Team Member count: 1.00 of 5.00

TITLE: Adjunct Lecturer in Architecture

FIRST NAME: Andrew

LAST NAME: Raimist

E-MAIL ADDRESS: raimist@wustl.edu

WEBPAGE: AndrewRaimist.com, RaimistDesign.com, cb14.raimistdesign.com

AFFILIATE INSTITUTION (s):

Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, Washington University in St. Louis
Raimist Design: founder and sole proprietor of architecture and design-based practice

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH (200 WORDS OR LESS):

Andrew Raimist teaches architecture at the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis. He's a St. Louis based architect, writer and photographer.

His architectural work focuses custom residential projects and historic preservation of mid-century modern architecture and. His research investigates the development of 20th century American modernism in art and architecture. His award-winning photography has been widely published.

His community arts practice combines the communicative power of photography with the its expressive potential for understanding and transforming neighborhoods and lives. His book (en) visioning Hyde Park documents his work with middle school children living in the Hyde Park neighborhood of north St. Louis.

He earned Master of Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis and a Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. He's a graduate of the Community Arts Training Institute established by the Regional Arts Commission. His honors include commendations and grants from the Missouri Arts Council, the American Institute of Architects and the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts.

Ferguson Academic Seed Fund
Grant Application Project Member & Invited Scholar Bio Sketch Form

Please complete an electronic copy of this for each member of your project team and for each invited scholar. You will be required to upload completed bio sketch forms on the grant application page. You may collate forms into a single document for ease of submission.

Invited Scholar: Team Member: Both:

Team Member count: 2.00 of 5.00

TITLE: Associate Professor of Architecture

FIRST NAME: Robert

LAST NAME: Hansman

E-MAIL ADDRESS: hansman@wustl.edu

WEBPAGE: http://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/portfolios/faculty/bob_hansman

AFFILIATE INSTITUTION (s):

Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, Washington University in St. Louis
City Faces: an urban art program housed in the Clinton-Peabody Public Housing Projects in downtown St. Louis.

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH (200 WORDS OR LESS):

Bob Hansman is an artist leads the Sam Fox School's undergraduate community studies course, "Community Building, Building Community," the foundation the Urban Design minor. He's held numerous exhibitions of his work in the St. Louis area. His life's work is dedicated to benefiting disadvantaged communities. As director of City Faces (begun 1993) and the Jermaine Lamond Roberts Memorial Art Studio (1996) in the Clinton-Peabody Housing Project has garnered national attention and awards, including features on CBS Evening News and The Christian Science Monitor. His students have been working for years in Clinton-Peabody, the 22nd Ward in St. Louis City, as well as the Ville, Lewis Place and Kinloch.

Bob was included in Coming Up Taller, a publication of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (1996). He received a Missouri Arts Award and was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society (1997). For teaching, Bob received Emerson Electric Excellence in Teaching Award (2000) and Founders Day Distinguished Faculty Award (2001). He received Bob and Gerry Virgil Ethic of Service Award (2005). Bob and his son Jovan—a student in his first year at Clinton-Peabody whom he later adopted—together received a FOCUS St. Louis "What's Right With The Region!" Award (2008). Bob received Rosa L. Parks Memorial Award for Meritorious Service to the Community (2010) and Arts & Sciences Council Award for Contributions to the Community (2014).

Ferguson Academic Seed Fund
Grant Application Project Member & Invited Scholar Bio Sketch Form

Please complete an electronic copy of this for each member of your project team and for each invited scholar. You will be required to upload completed bio sketch forms on the grant application page. You may collate forms into a single document for ease of submission.

Invited Scholar: Team Member: Both:

Team Member count: 3.00 of 5.00

TITLE: Professor in Community Collaboration and Public Policy

FIRST NAME: Todd

LAST NAME: Swanstrom

E-MAIL ADDRESS: swanstromt@umsl.edu

WEBPAGE: <http://www.amazon.com/Todd-Swanstrom/e/B001IOFCNC/>

AFFILIATE INSTITUTION (s):

University of Missouri—St. Louis
Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH (200 WORDS OR LESS):

As Des Lee Professor of Community Collaboration and Public Policy Administration at the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL), Todd Swanstrom specializes in urban politics and public policy. He has an MA from Washington University (1971) and a Ph.D. from Princeton (1981). Prior to joining UMSL Todd taught at Saint Louis University and the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University at Albany (SUNY). He's worked as neighborhood planner in Cleveland and as Director of Strategic Planning for the City of Albany, NY. Todd's book, *The Crisis of Growth Politics: Cleveland, Kucinich, and the Challenge of Urban Populism* (Temple University Press, 1985) won the Best Book Award from the Urban Section and Policy of APSA. His co-authored *Place Matters: Metropolitcs for the Twenty-first Century*, (U. Press of Kansas, 2014) won the Michael Harrington Award from the New Politics Section of APSA. In 2011 he published a co-edited volume, *Justice and the American Metropolis* (University of Minnesota Press), which develops the idea of "thick injustice." He is presently doing research on neighborhood dynamics in weak market metros and the causes and effects of high levels of involuntary residential mobility. Todd uses the resources of his endowed professorship to support the Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis.

Ferguson Academic Seed Fund
Grant Application Project Member & Invited Scholar Bio Sketch Form

Please complete an electronic copy of this for each member of your project team and for each invited scholar. You will be required to upload completed bio sketch forms on the grant application page. You may collate forms into a single document for ease of submission.

Invited Scholar: Team Member: Both:

Team Member count: 4.00 of 5.00

TITLE: **Adjunct & Director of Service, Diversity and Social Justice**

FIRST NAME: **Mark**

LAST NAME: **Tranel**

E-MAIL ADDRESS: **MTranel@umsl.edu**

WEBPAGE: **<http://pprc.umsl.edu/>**

AFFILIATE INSTITUTION (s):

University of Missouri—St. Louis

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH (200 WORDS OR LESS):

Ph.D. (Public Policy Analysis and Administration), St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri, 1987

M.A. (Urban Affairs), St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri, 1974

B.J. (News/Editorial), University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, 1972

Director, Public Policy Research Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2003-present

Interim Executive Director, Public Policy Research Center, University of Missouri-

St. Louis, 2002-2003

Director of Research, Public Policy Research Center, University of Missouri-

St. Louis, 2000-present

Senior Research Analyst, Public Policy Research Center, University of Missouri-

St. Louis, 1990-2000

Acting Director, Public Policy Research Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 1992, 1994, 1999

Director of Development, Economic Council of St. Louis County 1988-1990

Assistant Director of Development, Economic Council of St. Louis County, 1985-1988

Manager of Neighborhood Preservation, Normandy Municipal Council, 1983-1985

Community Planner, Normandy Municipal Council, 1978-1983

Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Bellefontaine Neighbors, 1974-1978

Caseworker, Missouri Division of Family Services, 1973-1974

Ferguson Academic Seed Fund
Grant Application Project Member & Invited Scholar Bio Sketch Form

Please complete an electronic copy of this for each member of your project team and for each invited scholar. You will be required to upload completed bio sketch forms on the grant application page. You may collate forms into a single document for ease of submission.

Invited Scholar: Team Member: Both:

Team Member count: 5.00 of 5.00

TITLE: Adjunct & Director of Service, Diversity and Social Justice

FIRST NAME: Leslie

LAST NAME: Doyle

E-MAIL ADDRESS: LDoyle@Fontbonne.edu

WEBPAGE:

AFFILIATE INSTITUTION (s):

Fontbonne University

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH (200 WORDS OR LESS):

Leslie Doyle is the Director of Service, Diversity and Social Justice at Fontbonne University in St. Louis, Missouri. Leslie was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. She is a graduate of Northwest Missouri State University (BS, 1997); and the University of Kansas (MS Ed, 1999). Recently, Leslie graduated from Fontbonne University Master of Management and Leadership program in December 2013. During her career, Leslie has worked at large public and small private institutions teaching and educating campus communities to celebrate diversity.

Leslie has won several awards for programming and her work with student groups. In 2014, she was a finalist for Fontbonne University's Adjunct Teacher of the Year. Leslie was named Fontbonne University Student Organization Advisor of the Year in 2007 and 2008. In addition, she has authored and received several grants through the Fontbonne Community Connections (a women's giving circle) that support student development and diversity initiatives.