

THE DRACHMAN INSTITUTE

CAPLA's research-based, community outreach arm, The Drachman Institute, is dedicated to sustainable design and planning with a focus on communities in need. Since 1988, we have engaged students, staff, faculty, and citizens as an interdisciplinary collaborative striving to make our communities healthier, safer, more equitable, and more beautiful places to live.

SCHOLARSHIP OF ENGAGEMENT:

Drachman Institute advances a scholarship of engagement that corresponds to the professional code of ethics in each of the College's disciplines, as well as the land grant mission of the University of Arizona.

Service-Learning: integrating community outreach projects into design curricula.

Collaborative Partnerships: engaging local neighborhoods, non-profits, municipalities, and businesses, as well as regional, state, tribal, federal, and international agencies.

Community Impact: applying students' knowledge in service to 21st century community needs.

The Drachman Institute utilizes a number of vehicles for implementing these collaborative outreach projects including multi-disciplinary design studios, faculty and professional residencies, service-learning coursework, senior capstone projects, master's theses, and direct hiring and mentoring of students as research assistants.

INTERDISCIPLINARY UNITS:

Housing Research:

centers its research, outreach, and educational activities on the proposition that housing is the building block of healthy neighborhoods and healthy neighborhoods are the cornerstones of sustainable communities. It promotes responsible real estate development, healthy community planning, housing and transportation affordability, employer-assisted and special needs housing, and regionally appropriate design that conserves land, energy, and water. Drachman Institute has received funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Arizona Department of Housing and conducted numerous housing and neighborhood assessments, master

plans, sustainable housing prototypes, and policy research for local communities, tribal nations, state, and federal agencies.

The Drachman Design-Build Coalition (DDBC): is a non-profit entity with a general contractor's license that produces prototypes of energy-efficient, low-cost dwellings. Each prototype is permitted as a model residence and is intended for dissemination of strategies into the community and for direct use by other non-profit and for-profit homebuilders. Nine design-build projects have been completed since 1996 with the DDBC Residence 1 winning design and teaching awards from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), respectively.

Heritage Conservation: promoting the conservation of our existing built environment as part of a comprehensive ethic of environmental, cultural, and economic sustainability. Since 2000, Drachman Institute's Heritage Conservation program, has integrated funded outreach projects with an interdisciplinary curricular program, Graduate Certificate in Heritage Conservation, using service-learning as a primary method of knowledge transfer. With grants totaling over \$2.3 million from local and state municipalities, and federal agencies such as the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the US Forest Service, Heritage Conservation has conducted numerous surveys of historic resources, historic building assessments, and treatment recommendations, cultural landscape inventories and treatment recommendations, new schematic design projects in historic contexts, and energy audits on historic buildings.

Sustainable City Project: is an interdisciplinary collaboration between the UA's Institute of the Environment (IE), College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture (CAPLA), and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS), that focuses on issues of sustainable urban development and livable cities through education, outreach, and research. Part think tank, part urban design studio, and part community forum, the project develops community-based solutions to complex urban challenges, including renewable energy, climate change, economic development, affordable housing, multi-modal transportation, water reassignment, public health, as well as ecosystem and heritage conservation. The Sustainable City Project, is based at UA Downtown where UA faculty members and students can connect with city officials and staff, community leaders and project developers for dialogue, vision, analysis and development of sustainable scenarios for the future.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

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