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build a quantitative database. In addition to the questionnaires, the team has met with neighborhood residents to inform the community about their work and gauge interest for future grassroots efforts.

This partnership has apparently been beneficial to everyone involved. For the students, it is an invaluable learning experience. "This is a great opportunity for students to conduct field work, assemble and analyze data, and understand the relationship between nonprofit organizations and city governments and how they interact and work together," commented **Gordon Scholz**, CRP professor and interim program director. For NeighborWorks Lincoln and the neighborhood residents, the project has helped identify and provide evidence of issues in the neighborhood, as well as generate interest and elicit participation from residents. Furthermore, the project is providing a foundation for further neighborhood revitalization planning efforts.

"There are only two staff persons at NeighborWorks Lincoln who work with community engagement, so we're pretty swamped. This background information-gathering which the students have conducted is a crucial first step in preparing to create a revitalization plan for any area. NWL and CRP have a long history of working together, which is a win/win because it expands NWL's capacity, provides students with hands-on experience and benefits the community," stated Pat Anderson-Sifuentez, community builder for NeighborWorks Lincoln. She continues, "City staff members have been cut back over the years, so if CRP students can assist with gathering and analyzing some information necessary, such as census data, property assessment scans and resident surveys, it helps NWL and Planning staff in their work."

One of the reasons this partnership was worked well thus far is the mutual understanding of community planning as a long-term and continuing process. "At the outset in this project, Gordon Scholz, NWL staff and Lincoln Planning and Urban Development staff met to make sure that the information gathered would be put to good use," said Anderson-Sifuentez. "The work has already evolved over the

years from doing just scans of properties, expanding to include resident surveys and public meetings. I hope we can continue to build on this process so that future University classes can build on what the previous classes have done."



University of Nebraska's CRP Studio Is Making a Difference in Lincoln Neighborhoods.

When the semester ends, it doesn't mean a student has to stop working on the project, Scholz adds. "After this semester, if a student wants to continue working on the project, they can choose to pursue it through independent study or a professional project in subsequent semesters."

In addition to supporting community development work, NeighborWorks Lincoln sees this project not only providing students with a great learning experience, but also impacting future individual decisions made by each student. "These students are improving the community they live in, and projects like this also serve as a way to connect students with meaningful service learning opportunities that will engage them with the community and possibly encourage them to stay in the area after graduation," stated Chief Operating Officer of NeighborWorks Lincoln Shawn Ryba.

An affinity for Lincoln and its residents may have started to take root among the students.

"It was great to interact with residents of the community, and it will be fun to watch the exciting future this community has in store," commented CRP student Maggie Harthoorn. Other students were equally enthusiastic about their skill development throughout this semester-long project.

"This experience has helped me to hone my GIS, Illustrator and InDesign skills in an environment with real deadlines and deliverables to a third-party partner such as NeighborWorks," commented CRP student Andy Pedley.

As a culmination of their community condition analysis, CRP students will make recommendations to NeighborWorks Lincoln for community improvements in the neighborhood they have studied. These results will give city stakeholders a useful perspective regarding the conditions of this neighborhood and a reference for future planning and decision-making.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

January 12, 2017

Vinayak Bharne lectured on "Practicing Urban Design: From High Art to High Activism" at the South China Agricultural University's College of Forestry and Landscape Architecture. He also spoke on "The Sacred Urbanism of Hindu India" at the Sacred Space Sacred Thread Global Conference at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Travis Longcore (Landscape Architecture + Urbanism program) was a presenter on Ecologically Sensitive Lighting Design at the 2016 American Society of Landscape Architects meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. His paper "Biological and ecological effects of light pollution" was published in *eLS: Citable Reviews in the Life Sciences*. Dr. Longcore also had a poster and a paper accepted to and presented at the 9th California

"highlighted Porter's multi-modal research on the role of ground within architectural theory and practice.

Ken Breisch has published a new book, *The Los Angeles Central Library: Building*

Associate Professor **Chuck Lagreco** organized a trip to 5th year studio to San Francisco to for his studio team in Fall 2016.

Mina Chow AIA Senior Lecture lectured on architecture and cultural diplomacy with