[Session 8] Challenges in Design Curriculum / Patrick Flynn

Many students describe the work process at the university as chaotic. There are many courses with different topics and many students with interests known or unknown to their peers and professors. All-nighters are still much more than an exception, and often such practices continue even after graduation during work in the office.

In the architectural profession, time planning stands out as one of the project planning processes that has a significant impact on the financial outcome of the project. The course intends to acquaint students with PM processes through application and development of awareness of their impact on scheduling and time management. By applying the PM process, the student initiates, plans, executes, controls, supervises, closes his work in the final semester of studies, and submits a seminar paper as a self-assessment of the execution process. PM processes are quantified and evaluated through a self-assessment: scope, schedule/time, cost, quality, resources, communication, and risks.

Students' reactions to the assignment are not always positive, but for the most part, students express regret for not learning the PM processes early enough in their education. An occurring myth often appears in students' conclusions that a rigid planning affects creative freedom because it limits the time needed to process and reflect on an idea/concept.

With thorough planning and execution of the plan, it is possible to improve efficiency and speed up the decision-making process without affecting quality. Decision-making is a disadvantage during students' work due to the lack of experience, resulting in uncertainty and indecisiveness that consume time. The introduction of PM courses in the earlier years of study and the application of the PM process can positively affect the quality of studies, students' satisfaction, and the adoption of productive habits as a positive contribution to the progress and improvement of students' efficiency in later work.

Project Management processes in the work of the Architectural Students"

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