

# ANDREW LEVY.

My decision to participate in the Integrated Project Delivery (BIM) Thesis and comply with the program guidelines set forth by the 2014 Charles Pankow Foundation AEI competition was easy to make. In doing so, I was able to work closely with representatives of each of the options offered as part of the architectural engineering program at Penn State. This collaboration with the other options helped me to understand how my design choices affect the other disciplines, and how their designs influence mine. Designing in a vacuum, as is commonly done as a thesis exercise, is not beneficial when leaving school and entering a workforce centered around integration, teamwork, and collaboration between many disciplines of design as well as the owners, clients, project managers, etc.

This experience has been, overall, very beneficial to my education, but it wasn't without its faults. The organization of the class (with regards to our BIM groups) and the communication flow between the professors and the students showed room for improvement. Additionally, with the new rules set in place by the competition of no more than 2 teams from each school allowed to enter, the course was not structured well for the team that was not able to participate. Overall, though, participating in BIM Thesis was a great choice, and showed me a realistic approach to design, involving other disciplines and integration between several design components.

