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*Assignment 10: Reflection on the relation between 4.273 and my own direction of development.*

This class has jolted me back into the academic life. It has caused me to think again. Really think about how I perceive the role of the designer and the nature of the design process. In the last half of the semester we were introduced to a few different rule based design processes. Although I found some of them incredibly intriguing and apparently valid in some cases, I don't see these types of design processes working well in architectural design. I won't close myself off to them quite yet, but this semester has not convinced me that they are the next great thing in architectural design. Ben showed us an example of a marketable idea with his evolutionary plaid design...that makes sense. But a building which must be sensitive to multiple things at once, that people must inhabit? With what I know right now the most I can see a computational device doing in this design process would be to set up the spatial relationships. After that it's a human designer making it work and designing the space.

How do I see the effect of this class on my own direction of development?... Well, I am still trying to find out what that direction is, but this class has given me a new pallet of knowledge to draw upon in the future which may very well benefit me. The abstractness of the assignments has gotten me out of the rut I began to settle in from working the last few years. It was a great series of brain exercises which has my brain awake again.

I appreciate being exposed to many different things I had not given much time to before this class, such as linguistics, music and genetic algorithms. Plus the backgrounds of my classmates have brought many different views of the same things to the class. I have learned a lot from them. This class has made me more sensitive to the many different ways we see the same thing. It has also made me more aware of the act of designing.