“A NEW FACILITY TYPOLOGY FOR WOMEN IN DETENTION” (and other related issues)
It’s time to expect MORE
From our system…
And ourselves
Bastoy Prison, Bastoy Island, Norway

- Norway’s largest low security prison: 120 inmates
- 35 guards during day / 4 guards at night
- Inmates not smalltime villains on first custodial sentence
  - Houses murderers/violent offenders
  - Unnerving to see access to knives/axes/chainsaws
- No cells, bars, gun, truncheons, CCTV
- 2 – 18 bedroom houses for 1 week orientation (“living training”)
- Then to more private, spacious houses for general population
Bastoy Prison, Bastoy Island, Norway

- Each inmate has a job which he selects Monday through Friday:
  - Regular meal/work schedule until 2:30pm
  - Free to do what they want until 11:00 p.m. (when they must be in their quarters)
  - They have access to TV/Computers
- Rules: No Violence, No Alcohol, No Drugs
  - Break Rules: 2 small, hidden rooms with steel doors and blacked out windows
  - Back to “closed” prison (locked up 23 hours per day)
No violent incidents/one escape
Arne Nilsen, Bastoy Prison Governor

“There will always be a need for conventional, high security prisons for people who simply are too damaged”
Halden Prison, Oslo, Norway

- Norway’s 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest prison; 252 inmates
- Individual, 130 Sq. Ft. cells (glorified dorm rooms) with En-Suite Bathrooms
- Divided into 10 – 12 units clustered around shared Living Room / Kitchen
- Access to Gym (with climbing wall), Public Lounge, Kitchen
- Jogging trails throughout the site
- Free-standing, two-bedroom house for family overnight visits
Halden Prison, Oslo, Norway

- “Occupational Training Centers”: includes Recording Studio / Teaching Kitchen
- Vast range of “formative” classes at official High School inside prison
  - I.T., Science, Catering, Music, Art, Handicrafts, several Sports
- Guards don’t carry guns (routinely eat meals/play sports with inmates)
- Non-institutional feel: no concrete; bricks/steel/larch
- One obvious symbol of incarcerate: 20-foot fence around site.
Halden Prison, Oslo, Norway
Arne Nilsen, Bastoy Prison Governor

“Both society and the individual simply have to put aside their desire for revenge and stop focusing on prisons as places of punishment and pain”
Leoben Prison, Leoben, Austria

- Houses 200 inmates supervised by 3 guards
- One side of the prison has a block of prisoners on remand
- The other side is reserved for convicts
- Holds the standard run of felons
- Living Units called “Pods”: Groups of 15 one-person cells with floor-to-ceiling windows, private lavatories, and a common space which (like Halden) includes a kitchen
- Each room has a balcony
• There is a Gym, a Prayer Room, a room for conjugal visits
• Noise is part of the chaos of prison life, the general racket that comes with holding large numbers of men in a confined space . . . but Leoben is serene.
• After 6 years of operation there are no signs of vandalism
• It would look like a college library except for the coils of razor wire along the top of the wall which surrounds the yard.
Leoben Prison, Leoben, Austria
“Maximum security outside; maximum freedom inside. The more normal life we give them here, the less necessary it is to re-socialize them when they leave”
Unachievable Paradigm?

Bastoy Prison

Halden Prison

Leoben Prison
Is this REALLY the answer?
“The findings on the effects of prison conditions on recidivism, in short, are a matter of scholarly consensus”
“You go to prison as punishment. You don’t go to prison for punishment. The deprivation of your freedom, for an American, is punishment enough.”
...So what to do?
“The current design of prison systems doesn’t work. Punishment can be effective in changing behavior but it only works in the short term and immediately after unwanted behavior happens...Overly punitive approaches used on violent, angry criminals only provide a breeding ground or more anger and more violence”
Larry Ard, Former Chief Deputy, Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Department

Contra Costa County Adult Detention Facility
Martinez, California
Jerry Ademak, Former Director – Colorado Division of Youth Corrections

Rite of Passage Ridge View Academy
Aurora, Colorado
John Baldwin, Director of Iowa DOC

“ARCHITECTURE IS HUGE”
Project Evolution – Charette 1
Project Evolution – Charette 2
Inmate Access Zones
Activity Opportunities & Nodes: Outdoor Programming

Potential Par Course
San Diego Women’s Detention Facility
Mid-Course Conference #1
February 1st, 2011

Landscape Amenity

The Green
The Spine
San Diego Women's Detention Facility

Mid-Course Conference #1
February 1st, 2011

Landscape Amenity

Master Plan

The Amphitheater

The Commons & Academic Quad
The Bioretension Garden

The Reflection Garden

Landscape Amenity
Level 2 Minimum Security Housing
Level 2 Minimum Security Housing
It’s time to expect
MORE
From our system…
And ourselves
Stress Reduction – an Essential Characteristic
“I’ve always had this belief that what we do as architects is an art and a science, but also a social science, and that what we do can influence behavior”
• Comprehensibility

• Manageability

• Meaningfulness
Community values are reinforced by **Visual Cues** in the environment that encourage appropriate behaviors.
Salutogenics

Sensation (sight, smell etc.)

Subject
- Perceptual Ability
- Memory
- Knowledge (epistemology)
- Culture

Experience

Object

Object as Experienced
Expect MORE MORE MORE
Q & A

The San Diego County Women’s Detention Facility