

Hannah Hall

Mr. Speice

ISM

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### Interview Assessment 3

**Name of Professional:** Nathan Huette

**Profession/Title:** Architect

**Business/Company name:** Corgan

**Date of Interview:** November 16, 2017

Through this interview I was wanting to see the difference in perspective of a newer architect versus the higher level of professional that I had interviewed before. Mr. Huette had finished getting his master's degree not too long before taking the job at Corgan. I really wanted to see what life was like for an entry level architect.

He said that the biggest thing about his job that surprised him when he finished school, is how different working is than school. In college, he said that there is more creative freedom to really just come up with what you want to create so long as you can support it to your professors. When you are working, you have clients that you have to please. They usually come up with an idea of what they want, coming to the architect to just make it happen. Rarely do they come with an open mind saying that the architect can decide what they want to do with the project. School teaches you how to design, which, in the workplace, is really only about five percent of the job. When working, an architect must also think about what the client wants, of course, as well as

structure feasibility and effect on the people that would use the building. For example, large amounts of natural light have been shown to increase productivity.

Mr. Huette also talked to me about what he might do in a typical day which includes emailing, coordinating, using software, drawing, and often meetings. He, like many of the other architects I have talked to, said that coordinating and working together is a huge part of being an architect. It is not as independent of a profession as it used to be. Mr. Huette even showed me an example of a collaborative space that Corgan has incorporated into schools that they have worked on called a learning stair. Essentially, it is a staircase with a section of cushions for seating so that many people can meet to collaborate. He said that another large, Dallas firm called HKS has incorporated a learning stair into their facilities.

Another thing I asked Mr. Huette about was the process of a project from the birth of the idea to the completion of the project. He said that the first step is for the client to come to work with the firm and tell them their idea. From there, the architects plan, draw, sketch, and organize spaces to go along with their interpretation of the client's wishes. Next, the architects meet with the client again to collaborate, revise and edit some plans. Then they think about the details of the project such as where offices might be placed in relation to a library or if the placement of a lobby is convenient. Once this has been considered and any additional edits have been made, the architects figure out how to put it all together before submitting the plans to the city to get approved. Finally, the architects find the contractor with the lowest bidding price to work with and visit the site continually while the project is being completed.

At the end of this interview, I had an idea for my original work. I would take Mr. Huette's information combined with the information from my other interviews to make a mock

plan. I would ask a friend or family member to be a client that I could meet with professionally a few times to design their dream home. They would tell me their qualifications for this home, I would design it, and we would collaborate just as a real architect does with their clients. Once my client approved of my plans, I would make official drawings to present to them. At the end of this interview, I was very excited to work on my original work.