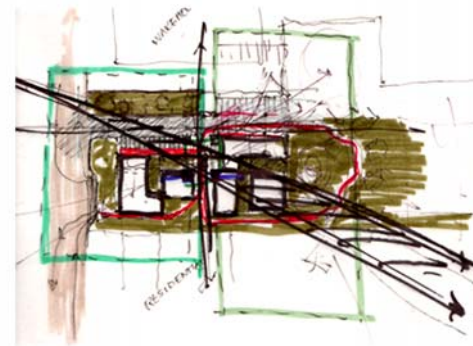


team of students participate in Healthcare Design 2007 Student Design Charrette



from left to right, Dr. Gayle Nicoll, Miguel Saldana, Lucia Terrazas, Dean Wiederstein, Rebekah Negrete, Samira Ahmadi



A team of five students from the UTSA CoA Department of Architecture participated in the 2007 Student Design Charrette sponsored by **STERIS Corporation**, and the **AIA Academy of Architecture for Health** and at the Healthcare Design 07 Conference held from November 2nd to 5th, 2007, in Dallas Texas. The challenge of the 48-hour charrette was to conceptualize a healthcare setting that optimally impacts the health of individuals, community and ecosystem for a community primary care clinic for Parkland Health and Hospital Systems in Irving Texas.

The University of Texas at San Antonio was one of four architectural programs selected from across the country to participate in the annual charrette. Each team received a grant of \$5000 from the STERIS Corporation to finance participation in the charrette. The charrette activities also included a tour of the RTKL Architects offices in downtown Dallas, a site visit and tour of the newly completed community clinic in Irving Texas.

The UTSA team was comprised of senior students **Lucia Terrazas** and **Dean Wiederstein** and graduate

students **Samira Ahmadi**, **Rebekah Negrete** and **Miguel Saldana**. **Dr. Gayle Nicoll**, who joined the Department of Architecture this semester to develop a certificate program in health and wellness design and architect **John Robulack** served as advisors to the team. The team produced a community-oriented and ecologically sustainable design that amalgamated primary care clinical functions with community health promotion services.

The design drew great interest and high praise from members of the AIA Academy of Architecture for Health when it was displayed at their annual reception. The team also presented their design to an expert panel comprised of architects and healthcare administrators who also appreciated how the design married the clear spatial organization needed in healthcare facilities within an exciting and poetic form that addressed links to the surrounding community and included community spaces such as a nature trail and staging areas for both community-oriented and health promotion functions as well as community disaster relief activities.

