SENCER courses and programs strengthen student learning and interest in the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics by connecting course topics to issues of critical local, national, and global importance.

Hans-Peter (Hepi) Wachter was awarded the OU SENCER Service Learning Award. Professor Wachter is incorporating service learning and multi-disciplinary collaboration into his studio courses since 2008 collaborating with David Boeck, Shawn Schaefer, George Mann, James Paterson and Michael Birkes.

The most recent service learning project connected Interior Design students with the Youth Services in Tulsa and the Community Health and Environmental Design Initiative of the OU Tulsa Urban Design Studio. Youth Services programs address the needs of homeless youth in our community. Programs are innovative and offer young adults creative ways to improve their decision making skills and values while building them up to become productive citizens. Programs include counseling services, community clinic, homeless services, and delinquency programs and youth development.

The Interior design students designed an adolescent health clinic to be operated by the Youth Services of Tulsa and to open this spring. Acknowledgements go to Youth Services’ Executive Director Jim Walker and his staff, as well as OU Tulsa faculty Mark Fox, MD, Paul Benson, MD, Nancy Braun, Pharm.D., Janette Habashi, Ph.D. and Ric Munoz, JD, graduate students Salma Al Nairab and Amin Irani and teaching support of Shawn Schaefer and Michael Birkes from the OU Tulsa Urban Design Studio and the Community Health and Environmental Design Initiative.