This is another sketchbook assignment. For this week you should note in your sketchbook mechanical linkages that you encounter. You should record these both with text and with sketches.

This is another exercise about paying attention, and also thinking about mechanical movement. Mechanical linkages are things that control or transfer motion. Examples (as always, not a definitive list) are things like the levers that close doors slowly, the mechanism on an automatic garage door opener that pushes and pulls the door, the mechanism that transfers your steering wheel motion to the wheels of your car (ok – you’re unlikely to see that one, but you definitely interact with it), the mechanisms that open and close the doors on Trax, the gear that turns to dispense paper towels in the restrooms, the knob on your oven timer that you have to press while turning to advance the timer rather than setting the time (that one might be unique to my old oven...). This assignment might take a little more creativity to see linkages compared to the sensors, but once you start looking, you should see lots and lots of them.

Like the sensor assignment, you should note whatever strikes you as interesting about the linkages (remember, both text and sketches). Bring your sketchbooks to class and turn them in on Wednesday Jan 22. I'll return them to a box in the SoC office on Thursday so that you take them with you for next week’s sketchbook assignment.