



Atrium

09 | 2008

CHANGING CITIES
CHANGING PROPERTY
AND HOW CONSTRUCTION
CHANGES COMMUNITY

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE
BUILDING & PLANNING



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

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Dean's Message

UNLIKE TRADITIONAL SOCIETIES, MODERN LIFE IS DEVOID OF THE MANY CEREMONIAL MARKERS THAT PACE THE ANNUAL CYCLE. IN THIS WAY, ACADEMIC LIFE IS VERY TRADITIONAL, REplete WITH REGULAR FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS THAT INDICATE MOVEMENT THROUGH THE CYCLE.

You may remember the pace of academic life from your time as a student. This pace is driven in large part by the teaching calendar. At certain times of the year, teaching demand push all else aside and, at others, teaching stops and other activities gain prominence. From the perspective of those who work on campus, the cycle does not end when the teaching year stops but simply moves to another set of demands.

As we come to the end of the academic year, we are preparing to celebrate the work done by students in the various subjects taught in the Faculty. Concurrent with such celebrations we will be engaged in assessments and making decisions on who can progress and who needs to spend more time building their knowledge and addressing their skills. It has been a remarkable year on which we have taught the first year curriculum in both the new B Environments as well as the new Melbourne School of Design. We have also continued to teach the very successful and relevant curricula of the extant programs. More subjects than ever are being recognized by students as of the highest caliber and students are raising the standards by producing ever better work. I invite you to join us for a sequence of end of year exhibitions which will be held in our building starting from 14 November.

In marking the launch of our new curriculum, with its distinction between undergraduate and graduate education, we have initiated a number of new features to the programs. Most distinctive of these was the departure of our first Travelling Studios. These studios

are multidisciplinary teaching groups that are funded from Faculty endowments to take groups of students to locations outside Victoria to expand our educational experience. This year groups went to the Genoa, Italy; Nanjing, China; and Bangkok, Thailand. At each location, the students have engaged on a project of local relevance which relates to their learning in Melbourne. The studios have engaged students from Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Urban Design and Construction streams, demonstrating the multidisciplinary of our work. In the coming year we expect to be sending groups to Santiago, Chile and Ahmedabad, India as well as two other locations yet to be determined. This initiative is supported by donations to our endowment funds to provide a distinct Melbourne opportunity and connect our students to learning globally. We are very grateful to our alumni and community of your support of our Faculty; this support allows us to give the students a distinctive education on par with the best in the world. We have made a commitment to support at least 4 such studios annually for the next 3 years; it is my hope that we will be able to expand the number of Travelling Studios will be increased over coming years as additional funding is made available. We welcome your support of these as well as other aspects of our Faculty goals.

As we make the changes to our new model, it is not only the form of education that is changing but also the content. Responding to the ever more sophisticated expectations of clients for professional work, we are reshaping aspects of the curriculum to

deliver more focused knowledge. We continue to link teaching and research, to the benefit of our students. One area in which we are doing so with great success is that of the design of teaching and learning facilities. In the last issue of Atrium we reported on the Green Schools research team; as complement this we are co-hosting a workshop on 18 November with IBM on Virtual and Physical Learning Spaces, a collaborative research project to investigate the use of spaces beyond classrooms to support learning. These experiences feed back to our students through design studios, lecture content and seminar discussions.

As part of the changes in curricula, we are now offering a Masters in Construction as well as a Masters in Property. The articulation of these two fields, growing from the original program in Building, is something that Professor Jon Robinson has overseen since 1998. Jon is retiring from the Faculty at the end of the year and we are very grateful for his leadership. Uniquely, Jon was able as Professor of Building to bridge both construction and property as fields of enquiry. It is significant that we will be seeking to replace him with two Chairs, one in each field, such was his capacity.

Elsewhere in this issue of Atrium you will read news of colleagues and alumni. We say farewell to Jeremy Pike who has contributed to the Landscape program for many years. We also celebrate the successes of several. Hijjas Kasturi was recognized by the

University with the conferment of an honorary Doctor of Architecture for the many services he has provided to the profession in Malaysia and mentoring our graduates over many decades. Graham Brawn was recognized by the Australian Institute of Architects for the consistent quality of his teaching and pedagogic leadership by the award of the 2008 Neville Quarry Architectural Education Prize; Neville of course taught in our Faculty for many years but had left by the time Graham joined as Professor.

This is the last issue of Atrium for 2008 and we welcome your feedback on its content, frequency and presentation. As you will have noticed, we have worked to evolve the format, focus and frequency of the magazine to be of interest and value to our alumni and the community. We are immensely proud of the work of our colleagues and alumni and wish to share their accomplishments with the community. Please let me know if there is anything we can do to improve the communication.

I look forward to seeing you at our several year end activities or in the coming year. With best wishes for the end of the year,

Tom Kvan

Dean



The major reasons for an increase in the number of home loan products available in the Australian market

HARRY KARAMUJIC

THE PRIMARY MOTIVATION OF THIS ARTICLE IS TO BRIEFLY EXPLORE MAJOR REASONS FOR RECENT EXPLOSION IN A NUMBER OF HOME LOAN PRODUCTS OFFERED IN AUSTRALIA.

In doing so, the following factors will be examined: the size, composition and changes in the total and home lending in Australia; consequences of the two most recent rounds of financial system deregulation; trends in interest rate and property prices; and recent changes in a typical borrower behaviour.

According to the Reserve Bank of Australia (2008a), as of April 2008, the total lending in Australia amounted to \$1,827b. 79.5 per cent of the total lending came from Australian Financial Institutions (AFIs), namely Banks and Non-banking Financial Institutions (NBFIs), 13 per cent was securitised lending and the 8 per cent were issued bills. The majority of the \$1,827b was absorbed by home loans (52%), followed by business lending (40%) and other personal lending (8%).

The total lending has experienced an astonishing growth, increasing almost 6 folds during the observed period (from \$319b in January 1990 to \$1,827b in April 2008). During the same time, the total home lending (excluding securitised loans¹), increased by more than 10 folds. The increase was even higher, almost 13 times, for the total home lending that included securitised loans. Accordingly, the total home lending contribution to the total lending almost doubled. The total home lending contributed only 24 per cent to the total lending in January 1990, the contribution increased to 52 per cent in April 2008.

This astonishing increase in both the total lending and home lending was made possible by a set of financial system deregulations. The initial wave of deregulation, conducted in the early 1980s, has changed the state of Australia's financial system. The call for deregulation was an attempt to allow banks greater freedom in response to competitive market signals and borrower demands, and to ensure institutions met minimum prudential standards designed to protect depositors and maintain the stability of the financial system. As a result, within a relatively short period, deregulation freed banks and capital markets

from the majority of previous regulatory constraints. This initial wave of deregulation resulted in changes such as removing the ceiling on bank lending and deposit rates, introducing tender systems to sell government securities and floating of the Australian dollar. It is worth noting that with the floating of the exchange rate in December 1983, impacts on the domestic money market from overseas markets were almost completely removed.

In addition to the deregulation conducted in the early 1980s, another round was conducted as a result of the 1997 Wallis Report. This report stemmed from the government-initiated Financial System Inquiry. The Wallis reforms aimed at facilitating greater choice and competition in financial services, encouraging more rapid innovation and better service, as well as enabling AFIs to be more globally competitive. In July 1998 the new round of changes was introduced. Under this reform, financial institutions became regulated and supervised on the basis of the functions they performed. An important effect of the latest round of deregulation was that it, in addition to traditional banks, allowed a number of other institutions (generically called NBFIs²) to offer traditional banking services. Consequently, traditional banks increasingly faced higher competition, at least for a portion of the services they were offering.

Most Australian financial institutions agree that NBFIs do not have an advantage in offering products such as credit cards, overdrafts and transaction products. These are the products that are generally characterised by a high number of transactions that require larger accessibility i.e. the existence of larger retail networks (both branch and electronic banking networks). However, banks do generally concur that NBFIs may, under certain conditions, have some advantages in offering home loans. Consequently, market forces and the new regulation regime³ directed NBFIs to adjust their lending focus and give emphasis to home lending.

The comparative advantages of NBFIs in offering home loans are typically referenced to the fact that many NBFIs specialise in home lending. For this reason, they are perceived to be timelier, able to provide more personalised service and often capable of undercutting the bigger banks. With respect to funding costs, it is relevant to note that NBFIs that specialise in providing home loans have less of an overall competitive advantage as market interest rates move up. Unlike NBFIs, banks typically have access to a larger base of retail deposits whose interest rates are relatively insensitive to changes in the cash rate. When market interest rates are low, the benefit of the retail deposit base is small as the bulk of funding for both banks and NBFIs is sourced from financial markets⁴. However, as financial markets' interest rates rise, the benefit gained from the retail deposits increases. This allows banks to acquire relatively cheaper funds and, in doing so, somewhat mitigate competitive pressure coming from the NBFIs. Nevertheless, the potential comparative advantages of NBFIs with regards to superior customer service and lower operating costs, if fully realised, may result in a further increase in competition and consequent downward pressure on home loan interest rates.

As discussed by Ellis (2006), one of the major results of increased competition was that NBFIs's initial aggressive pricing forced banking sector to reduce their home lending margins. Consequently, lower home loan interest rates improved borrowers' capacity to pay, at any stage of interest rate cycle (shifting the whole housing demand curve to the right), making home lending within reach of a wider range of borrowers.

Furthermore, the period since the introduction of the latest round of financial system reforms has been largely characterised by low interest rate environment. The most commonly used proxy for illustrating the level and changes in the entire term structure of interest rates is the cash rate. The major reason for this is that changes in the cash rate, to varying degrees,

affect the entire term structure of interest rates in the economy. Lowe (1995), using monthly Australian data for the period January 1986 to October 1994, showed that the coefficient of changes between the cash rate and the shorter-term interest rates was quite close to one, in both an economic and statistical sense, but that the longer-term maturities were much less impacted by changes in the cash rate⁵. In other words, Lowe showed that the pass-through of cash rate changes to short-term money market interest rates is quick and almost complete, while the pass-through of cash rate changes to longer-term maturities is much less responsive and much more complex. According to the RBA (2008b), between July 1998 and July 2007, the cash rate stayed between 4.23 and 6.25 per cent.

In addition to low interest rate environment, the period since the introduction of the latest round of financial system reforms has also, for the most part, been characterised by rising property prices. Australian house prices, between 1997 and 2004, experienced sustained growth. According to the RBA (2004), house prices increased at an astonishing rate of over 9 per cent per annum between 1997 and 2001, and by 17 per cent in 2002. Although impressive, it is not a unique occurrence. In nominal terms, these rates of increase are lower than those recorded during the second half of the 1980s. A slightly different picture emerges when we compare the two periods in real terms⁶. The real term

measurement shows that, broadly speaking, the rise in house prices in those two periods is comparable. House price growth finally started to ease in the first half of 2004, falling to 10.9 per cent after another strong increase of 17.9 per cent, in 2003. Rising property prices over an extended period of time are believed to have encouraged an additional demand for home loans that otherwise would not have had eventuated. This is further emphasised by a sluggish stock market during the same period, diverting investors from the stock market to, at the time, the highly lucrative housing market.

Yet another interesting development, which contributes to the increasing complexity of the home loan market, is that borrowers are becoming increasingly sophisticated in their product knowledge, particularly with improved access to the Internet and ease of gaining information. This knowledge, combined with increased media coverage on interest rate variations, enables borrowers to shop around for the most competitively-priced product that meets their needs.

Deregulation in the financial services industry has eroded barriers that once separated different types of financial services, such as retail banking, insurance and investment banking. Despite banks' efforts to consolidate services and establish "one-stop" financial shops, borrowers are increasingly disaggregating their financial holdings based on various institutions' interest rates, fees, and investment performance.

The primary motivation of this article is to briefly explore major reasons for recent explosion in a number of home loan products offered in Australia. Overall, the implementation of the latest round of financial system reforms was largely successful. The lasting impact of the reform is a more efficient and effective financial system characterised by increased competition, convenience, diversity of choice, and enhanced stability and integrity of the financial system. In particular, a significant increase in number of competitors, increasing borrower sophistication, low interest rate environment and associated comparable funding cost structure for both NBFIs and banks, made it unsound for lenders to compete on price alone. Within this type of environment, any attempt to differentiate on price alone could not be sustained and would only result in driving the whole market down i.e. falling margins. Not surprisingly, lenders (in particular bigger banks) redirected their attention to developing new, typically more functional, home loan products as more efficient and effective approach for differentiating at the market place. Consequently, the contemporary home loan market has approximately 350 institutions offering some 3,000 home loan products⁷.

To enable further structured research in such an interesting and dynamic field, the author has recently completed a paper focusing on providing a classification and detailed account of various contemporary home loan product groups and packages.

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- Home loan securitisation is a financing technique that involves conversion of individual home loans into a pool of marketable securities.
- Primarily credit unions and building societies.
- For more unexpected outcomes of the reform see Stanford (2004).
- This primarily occurs because during the low interest rate environment the difference between the deposit rates and the financial markets is relatively small.
- Lowe's sample period was constrained by the fact that prior to April 1985 most lending rates were subject to stringent regulation.
- Nominal house price increases adjusted by the general rate of inflation measure the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- Source www.smithbarney.com

Paolo Tombesi Redesigning construction

IN WESTERN SOCIETIES, INDEPENDENT ARCHITECTS AND BUILDING CONTRACTORS WORKING FOR A CLIENT HAVE BEEN PROFESSIONALLY MARRIED FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO-HUNDRED YEARS.

The triangle of practice that emerged in the XIX century was built on the assumption that a symmetrical and balancing relationship between concept and execution, or agency and vendorship functions, could exist or ought to exist. Accordingly, domain and responsibilities of either role were defined as complementary yet distinct: modern professionals, in particular, were to mediate between vendors and buyers, guaranteeing the utility of the individual client and the respect for the collective good whilst protecting the rights of the builder.

Today, the triangle of practice based on the concentrated allocation of functions with specific social actors is no longer as clear or valid in many sectors of construction. While building design has come to incorporate a plethora of conceptual dimensions and is now divided into a myriad of sub-tasks, the economies at play have pushed for the allocation of many of these tasks away from the main professional actors, towards clients, investors, general contractors, specialised consultants, subcontractors and suppliers. In addition, the widespread dissemination of information technologies is now making it possible for design and documentation services to be procured, stored and modified electronically, likely away from their initial providers. Contractual variations to tendering traditions have also altered the balance between planning and implementation stages by producing an integration of design-and-build functions, either from the start or at certain points of the building procurement process. Meanwhile, the decision-making space of the architect on behalf of the client is being functionally challenged by the evolution of technical specialties and the rise of parallel managerial roles. In this environment, the idea that one can work on buildings as if they were collections of predetermined product lines rather than syntheses of unique project conditions has gained strength and cultural acceptance.

All these issues raise critical questions for both academia and practice: Is there a dislocation between formal and applied knowledge? Should the relationship between design and construction be rethought? Do we need to reconsider and expand the idea of design in light of the autonomy assigned to many of the decision-making processes involved in building development? And, last but not least, is there anything to gain from attempting to re-conceptualise the process of land improvement by considering design as a complex inter-organisational undertaking rather than an intra-organisational one?

The academic structure of the new graduate school, organising built environment disciplines under the overarching rubric of design, implicitly provides an affirmative answer in this direction: the successful definition of specific courses of action in any building construction-related endeavour is connected to actors' ability to delineate and solve problems, to structure information critically and to communicate or exchange decisions, all this on the basis of independently understood conditions and rules as well as socially negotiated objectives. Design activity of a kind, that is, should explicitly inform all dimensions of building procurement, from building scope formulation to building components production, building erection to building use and maintenance, project definition to project control, land assembly to financing.

This scenario shapes the idea of both building and project, with the first being the combined result of the implementation of multiple scope-specific designs, and the second being the space where the gradual integration of these designs occurs, following a process of conciliation between different technical agendas.

Extending the discussion on design practice to the various types of intellectual activity required to produce a building is bound to give great impetus to research on and in the construction industry.

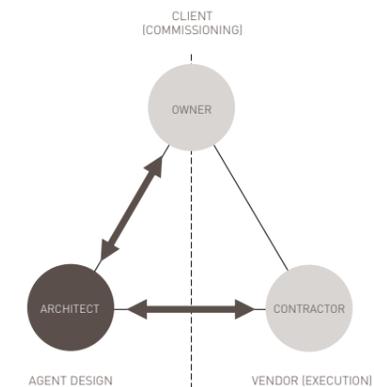
In fact, the moment one establishes that, for a project to be properly developed, specific design intelligence must be available and accessible within the industry, the analysis of how this very industry organises to generate, assemble, retain and exchange various types of knowledge (or skills) becomes critical in understanding its recorded behaviour as well as planning its future ability to evolve or to respond to challenges.

From this perspective, the issues to tackle as both scholars and practitioners abound. Judging from the evidence in the field, for instance, is there any kind of theoretical or practical expertise, explicit or tacit knowledge notions, which appear to be necessary but not as readily available in the chain of intellectual supply supporting today's construction processes? And is this the reflection of newly formed needs or wants, or is it the natural consequence of changing conditions of work and training? What resources and market environments would it take to produce or sustain the know-how thus identified as useful? And should it be embedded with specific profiles?

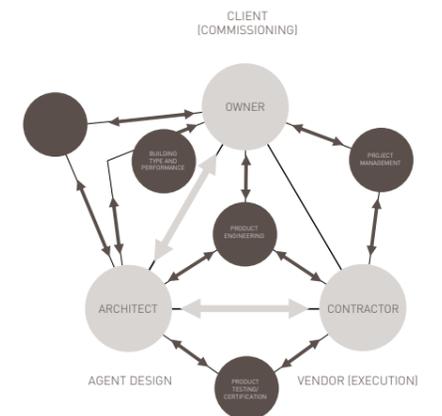
Predictably (at least for us), these questions show how much the future of making lies not only with the advances of technology but also with one's willingness to understand and intervene on the social geography of the thinking behind it.

Associate Professor Paolo Tombesi is a former Fulbright Fellow, and has a PhD in architectural practice and regional development. In 2004, he was scholar in residence at the Graduate School of Design at Harvard, where he co-taught International Practice. He is currently a research fellow at the Polytechnic of Turin. Over the last ten years, he has given over thirty public lectures, advanced seminars and keynote addresses around the world. He has taught in the USA, Italy and Spain, and has been a visiting critic in Austria, Switzerland and Costa Rica. Since 1986, he has been contributing to the world's leading architectural and building periodicals. Between 1990 and 1996, he was the Los Angeles correspondent for the international journal *Casabella*. Since 2002, he is on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Architectural Education* and *UME*, as well as an editorial correspondent for the *British Construction Management and Economics* and *Il Giornale dell'Architettura*. He has consulted with the Department of Environment and Heritage of the Federal Government, and the Royal Australian Institute of Architects. He is an Expert of international standing with the Australia Research Council and the Funding Research Agency for Technology of Quebec (FQRNT).

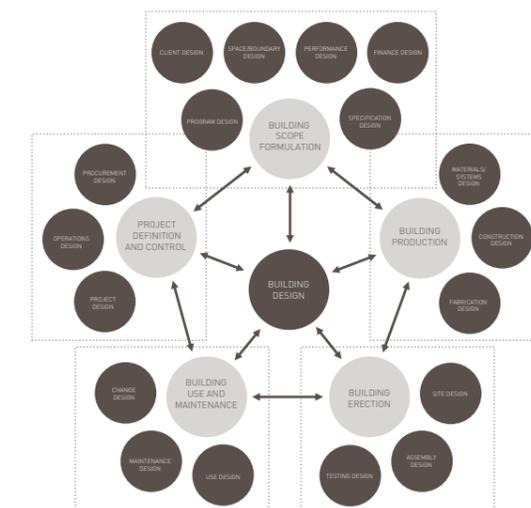
THE TRADITIONAL TRIANGLE OF PRACTICE



THE CURRENT POLYGON OF PRACTICE



THE FIVE DIMENSIONS OF BUILDING DESIGN



Shaping a City that Works

MARCUS SPILLER

FOR THREE DECADES FOLLOWING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, MELBOURNE PRESSED RAPIDLY OUTWARDS SPURRED BY THE EXTRAVAGANZA OF PERSONAL MOBILITY OFFERED BY THE CAR. THE METROPOLIS MORPHED FROM A COMPACT SPIDER STRUCTURE, BUILT AROUND THE COMMUTER RAILWAY LINES, INTO AN AMOEBALIKE FORM SPREADING FROM THE BASALT PLAINS IN THE WEST INTO THE YARRA VALLEY AND WELL INTO THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA.

This new found freedom in private travel generated an enormous boost to productivity as the labour market became more flexible and efficient. Consumers were able to range widely to satisfy preferences. If the commodity you wanted or the job you wanted wasn't on your doorstep, you could reach it super fast and joyfully in your new motor.

This form of urban expansion helped produce the 'Long Boom' and it fed off it, generating very high levels of home ownership and a relatively even income distribution.

Were it not for four key shifts, this formula for urban prosperity might have rolled on indefinitely. These were the absorption of available road space, volatility in the price of fuel, restructuring of the labour market and human induced climate change.

The compelling concept of suburbanized urban growth began to unravel in the late 1970's and early 1980's. With the withdrawal of protectionist policies, Australian firms were forced into more competitive business models involving greater use of outsourcing, brokerage services and specialists advisers. Whereas 'knowledge intensive' jobs in management, R&D, finance and strategic planning were once distributed across the suburbs with their host manufacturing plants, these functions became more footloose and gravitated towards the inner urban region. These areas today offer the greatest choice of quality jobs in Melbourne (Figure 1). Ironically they were written off during the hey day of suburbanization as 'slum suburbs' warranting 'reclamation',

Meanwhile, the sheer expanse of the low density city and rising car ownership made free range commuting so much more difficult as congestion costs mounted. The city no longer distributed opportunity evenly.

Whereas they once beckoned with promises of self development, Melbourne's growth areas now offer a constrained menu of jobs and services for residents (Figure 2). Workers in these suburbs have to travel far and wide to find employment. For example, 85% of Melton residents travel more than 30 minutes for employment, whereas across the metropolitan area as a whole, only 40% of MSD residents.

The optimistic suburban city of the 60's and 70's also facilitated social mobility. Families were able to build equity in housing that held its relative value, opening up future housing choices. Not so today; house prices in the opportunity rich inner and middle suburbs of Melbourne are growing faster than those at the fringe (Figure 3), raising the prospect of families being locked into areas with fewer options in employment, education and services.

Melbourne is on the verge of a geographic stratification that threatens the social sustainability of the metropolis and therefore its wider reputation for liveability. This is not quite in the same league as the Banlieu of Paris which erupted in riots last year, but the warning signs are here.

The time has come to redesign Melbourne at the metropolitan level, to reinstate the city as a machine for elevating human potential and distributing opportunity equitably.

A positive design response lies in the legacy of the suburban city. As the era of virtually unlimited mobility by car confronted the challenges of congestion and fuel costs, the metropolis broke up into a set of sub cities, defined by their relative self containment in employment (Figure 4). These city segments now need to be developed into genuine cities in their own right, each featuring a true CBD with business headquarters, universities, flagship cultural institutions and a distinctive hospitality and entertainment offer. They need their own local stock of quality jobs which are drawn towards these CBD's by their urban quality and their connectedness to other parts of the metropolis.

Marcus Spiller is a Director of SGS Economics & Planning Pty Ltd. His consulting experience spans land economics, regional development, housing policy, infrastructure funding and policy co-ordination systems. He has taken up secondments as lecturer in urban economics at Melbourne University, adviser to the Minister for Planning and Housing in Victoria and senior executive in the Queensland Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning. He is an Adjunct Professor in Urban Management at the University of Canberra and a former National President of the Planning Institute of Australia. He is also a Director of VicUrban, the Victorian Government's land development company.

Acknowledgements

The maps in this article were prepared by Julian Szafraniec and Vigneshwar Maharaj of SGS Economics and Planning Pty Ltd

Figure 1 Distribution of managerial and professional jobs in Melbourne - 2006

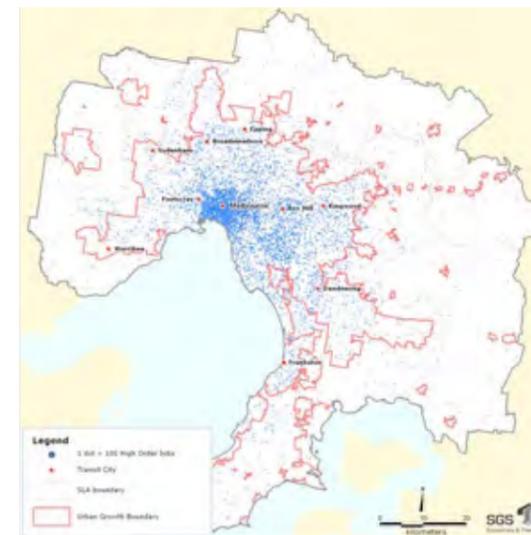


Figure 2 Accessibility to Jobs and Services in Melbourne 2006

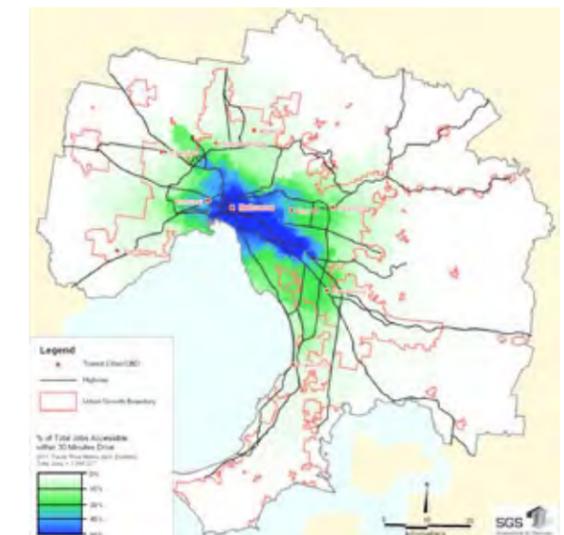


Figure 3 House Price Trends

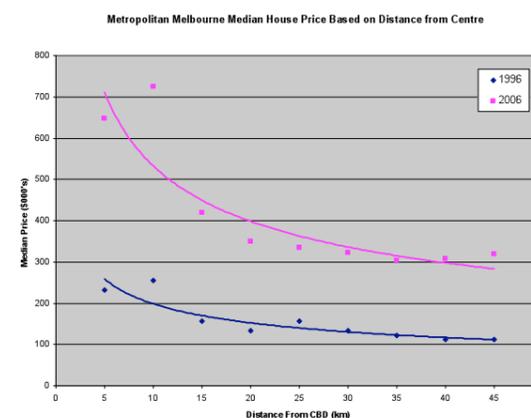


Figure 4 There are many Melbournes



Average income affordability threshold, 2006, \$270,000
Average income affordability threshold, 1996, \$161,000

DEAN'S LECTURE SERIES

Chris Luebke

CHRIS LUEBKEMAN IS A DIRECTOR AND LEADER OF ARUP'S GLOBAL FORESIGHT AND INNOVATION INITIATIVE.

Chris Luebke refuses to be categorized. He has constantly, and consistently, occupied the 'spaces between' professions. He utilizes his enthusiastic belief in our Zeitgeist in his current position as Director for Global Foresight and Innovation at the Arup headquarters in London.

His experiences have enabled him to specialize in being a generalist with a view to being "in league with the future." He was listed as one of the ten futurist speculators and shapers "who will change the way we live", in Wallpaper Magazine, July/August 2002. As an educator, he taught in the Departments of Architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology [ETH] in Zurich, the University of Oregon, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT].

Since 2003, Chris and his team (Arup Foresight, Innovation + Incubation) have conceptualized and facilitated over 60 workshops worldwide, including Singapore, Australia, Switzerland, Russia, USA, Holland, and the UK, that explore the potential impact of leading drivers of change on the future of business.

Over the years, the workshops have involved over 4000 participants, who have contributed to challenging the official futures and how they relate to different areas of business, including the retail and hospitality sectors. As well as assessing emerging trends and technologies, a series of workshops specializing in the future of the hotel explores how foresight by design can lead to enhanced business results. Research results have been

visualized in creative outputs, including drivers of change cards and other innovative publications. Building upon insights gained from

these events, Chris and his team have created a holistic body of knowledge that aims to inspire the future of business and advance the development of a sustainable built environment.

Educated as a geologist, structural engineer, and architect, Chris has a background in research. Before joining Arup, he studied in Switzerland and went on to become a faculty member of the Departments of Architecture at the University of Oregon, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Since joining the firm he has facilitated the creation of an eCommerce strategy, initiated research projects on the 'designer's desktop of the future', and encouraged thinking about the evolution of the firm's skills networks into a knowledge network.

Since joining Arup, Chris has facilitated and initiated a series of research projects on the future and is constantly encouraging lateral thinking. His current projects include:

UrbanLife 2030

Bringing together an integrated economic, social and environmental approach to current thinking and how we envision our urban futures.

CISCO Connected Urban Development

Providing thought leadership on the future of the urban connectivity.

Eco-Resorts of the Future

Design and management of client workshop focusing on the future of eco resorts in Tanzania.

Drivers of Change

A set of six cards examining the most significant drivers of global change and their implications on the built environment; including Water, Demographics, Energy, Climate Change, and Waste.

Chris is currently working with some of the world's largest companies to develop scenarios to better understand the opportunities that change is creating for them in the built environment.

He is a member of the firm's Design and Technical Executive which promotes the highest standards of design and technical skill to ensure that Arup is one of the world's leading practitioners in its chosen fields.

Chris has advised the UK Government's Environmental and Physical Sciences Research Council on strategic matters relating to the Built Environment. He sits on the Innovative Manufacturing Centres Evaluation Panel and is guiding the Five-Yearly National Research Review.

He serves the UK industry directly as a member of the CRISP [Construction Research and Innovation Research Strategy Panel] Executive.

In 2004 Chris was named a Senior Fellow of the Design Futures Council

(Y)our Future: Considerations of a Rapidly Evolving Global Context

The Future is over sold and under imagined. It always has been and always will be. We have dealt with this by creating stories about tomorrow that enable our comprehension of what is to come. What are the [profound(?)] changes that we are currently observing? What impacts might the population peak of Japan imply for us? We know that the viability of an economy is dependent upon its energy supply. What will this mean for the nation?

This talk will engage observations of normality in a world that is rapidly changing.

To access recordings of previous Deans Lecture speakers, please visit <http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/aboutus/deans-lecture-series/>



DEAN'S LECTURE SERIES

Jenny B. Osuldsen

ONE OF THE WORLD'S FOREMOST LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS JENNY B. OSULDSSEN SPOKE AS PART OF THE MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF DESIGN'S DEANS LECTURE SERIES.

A partner in Norwegian architectural firm 'Snøhetta', Osuldsen discussed her involvement in a firm with a reputation for maintaining a strong relationship between landscape and architecture, and one that has designed some internationally renowned sites including the Alexandria Library in Egypt and the New National Opera in Oslo.

Jenny B. Osuldsen was born in the eastern part of Norway in the fortress city of Kongsvinger. She grew up with three older brothers in a region focused on forestry and agriculture. Her parents had followed the trend of academics moving to smaller regional areas that was quite common in the 60's. Following her older brothers lead – who took a year off between finishing school and beginning University, Jenny camped on her brother's couch and became an au pair before applying for university.

The combination of natural sciences, culture and art influenced Jenny's choice to study landscape architecture, she considered architecture but thought the structure of study would be too limiting. As a student she was intrigued by the contrast between different landscapes and enjoyed the artistic elements of her course, spending much of her time making models. Given the

opportunity she thinks she could have happily lived in her studio.

Jenny enjoyed the cultural benefits of attending a small university, with only 1500 students across in 25 schools, the exchange of dialects and vibrant, student life created an engaged student population. She was particularly active within choir, theatre groups and the student union. During the 1990 IFLA conference in Burgen, Jenny was the international delegate for students, organising student component 150 students 400 adults

After graduating as a Landscape Architect from the Agricultural University of Norway in 1991 she worked in practice at Gjøvik and was engaged in several projects for the 1994 Lillehammer Olympic Winter Games. She then decided to pursue further study to pursue a more theoretical based course structure, having previously experienced a very production focused environment.

In 1993-1994 she got a Fulbright scholarship and the Ambassadorial scholarship from Rotary and went to Los Angeles at the Masters Program in Landscape Architecture and at the Art Department at California Polytechnic

University (Pomona). Jenny chose Los Angeles, reasoning that it was as removed from the landscape and culture of Norway as she could imagine, but the university and opportunities available also allowed her to pursue her artistic interests.

In 1995 she joined Snøhetta, initially not knowing much about the practice, but following a friends recommendation she secured a maternity leave replacement position. At that time over half the firms staff were involved in the Library of Alexandria project – a project that she had occasional opportunities to contribute to. During this time, the firm was focused on developing new business to accommodate the long term absence of so many staff. Jenny started out doing fairly traditional work in streetscapes and roadwork but appreciated opportunity to combine practical, functional elements with innovative design.

Since 1999, she has been a Section Leader in Snøhetta and became a partner in 2006. In 2006 she also was the managing director in the NYC office to establish Snøhetta presence in the US. She has been deeply involved in Snøhetta's designs, both in competitions and in a range of small and larger projects.

Jenny considers Snøhetta to be different to other landscape architecture practice in Norway, and acknowledges that they can elicit strong responses from others in industry. Jenny firmly believes that the best landscape architecture projects don't look like landscape architecture – an opinion that has resulted in debate and criticism from many competitors. Jenny feels that criticism directed at this approach is due to Snøhetta reputation for bold and innovative work in what are traditionally seen as traditional spaces. She also feels that this is part of a larger shift and of Norway establishing its own cultural identity, as a nation that has very recently developed considerable wealth - creating new opportunities, but threatening some traditions

In practice, Jenny believes that teams and designers should be encouraged to be bold and resist the temptation to over intellectualize ideas that generate a design theme or concept. She feels that it is important to try and be open to ideas and appreciate that idea development is a key part of the project. She concedes that this approach can often lead to trying times during final submission, however believes that the satisfaction upon completion justifies the commitment.

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Between the lines in the landscape...

The Norwegian based architectural firm Snøhetta has a long-standing experience in the international marketplace and has been characterized by several unique projects. Its emphasis upon larger projects, especially larger international public projects such as theaters and museums has given Snøhetta a capacity to create unique architectural designs using the most contemporary methods of planning. Snøhetta is also equipped to undertake a holistic design process due to its rich mix of architecture, landscape and interior disciplines.

The Snøhetta office is planned so that all disciplines sit in direct proximity to one another without separation of any kind. Although Snøhetta benefits from the social and political characteristics of its Scandinavian base it is also benefiting from its strong multi-cultural staff having a range of education and skills from around the world. All of Snøhetta's projects are approached from the standpoint that teamwork is an important characteristic for achieving a successful design. This attitude has been developed over many years of working together. The lecture covered a number of Snøhetta designs to see through the lines in the landscapes to explain the projects and the processes. The site and context of each project is considered unique and provides a strong point of departure for the design. Architecture cannot be contained simply by rules of order; instead it must accommodate the restless mind of human society. It must accept associations developed by larger numbers of characters beyond the discipline of the architect.

More information on the range of Snøhetta's projects can be found at www.snoarc.no

Virtual and physical spaces as places for informal learning

IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO BUILD A UNIVERSITY AROUND THE SPECIALIZED NEEDS OF ITS ACADEMIC PROGRAMS; IT ALSO NEEDS A COLLECTION OF DISTINCT GATHERING PLACES THAT CATALYZE INTERACTION AND BRING THE CAMPUS TO LIFE - WALLSJASPER, 2008

In 2007 the University of Melbourne formed a strategic partnership with IBM to consider a range of collaborative research and development opportunities. From early on in these discussions it was clear that IBM and the University shared a strong interest in understanding the ways in which technology and space interact to influence how people come to know, understand and appreciate the world around them.

Rather than consider what happens in formal learning spaces (e.g. classrooms, online tutorials), the working group became increasingly interested in informal learning environments. On campus such informal learning environments include spaces such as foyers, corridors, lounges, coffee shops, walkways, lawns, quadrangles, nooks... the 'public' spaces between rooms and buildings.

These places evoke Ray Oldenburg's notion of the thirdplace; neither home nor work, but "great good" in-between places that are critical to and shared by the community.

The informal learning activities that can occur in these environments vary and involve students, staff or the general public. Staff and students of the university might use them for academic work: individual study, informal group work, or staff-student meetings.

An additional and critical role of public university spaces is to support a range of socio-cultural activities – meetings, exhibitions, cultural and community events – that are intrinsic to broader university experiences and its role as a public education institution. In supporting these activities, these spaces become places of informal, often serendipitous encounters, and incidental learning.

In December 2007 the working group secured funding from the University to begin a year-long project driven by a central question:

How can virtual and physical spaces be designed, integrated, used, and understood to better support informal learning?

The campus-based physical spaces we were interested in are fairly self-evident and are broadly defined above. The 'virtual spaces' we considered were equally broad and encompassed all manner of 'online' or 'web-based' activities including information seeking and access, social and professional communications, the use of 'Web 2.0' technologies such as blogs, wikis, podcasts, file sharing sites (e.g. YouTube, Flickr), social networking (e.g. Facebook, MySpace), social bookmarking (e.g. del.icio.us) and virtual worlds (e.g. Second Life). We were also interested in how hardware such as display screens and projection devices are used in physical environments.

A key component of the project was to coordinate the activities of an intensive Think Tank, comprised of key university staff and senior IBM personnel. The Think Tank was charged with the responsibility of identifying 'critical issues' that needed to be considered in the project. The issues identified by the Think Tank are outlined in this Discussion Paper. These issues are not mutually exclusive; in fact, there is considerable conceptual overlap and interdependency among them.

- Architectural Determinism
- Fragmentation and Recombination
- Segmentation and Integration
- Community Engagement
- Teaching and Learning Boundaries
- Control

Working Parties were then organised around each of the critical issues. The Working Parties included collaborations among staff and students of the University of Melbourne, staff from IBM, and a range of individuals from diverse backgrounds including representatives from architectural firms, the City of Melbourne, Museum Victoria, Multimedia Victoria, the State Library, other universities, community groups, local business, technology firms and secondary schools.

The Working Parties came together a number of times (physically and virtually between August and October 2008 to further refine each of the critical issues.

Their discussions were directed towards developing concrete outcomes in one or more areas:

- Policy Recommendations
- Design Postulations
- Research Proposals
- Immediate Implementations

On Tuesday 18th November, the efforts of the working parties will be presented at a Public Forum on Informal Learning Places jointly hosted by IBM and The University of Melbourne.

**Law Building
Ground Floor Lecture Theatre (G08)
University of Melbourne
Tuesday November 18, 2008
9:45am – 4:30pm**

We are delighted to have Professor William J. Mitchell from The Massachusetts Institute of Technology as our keynote speaker. Professor Mitchell is Professor of Architecture and Media Arts and Sciences and director of the Media Lab Smart Cities research group.

The Forum will provide an opportunity to:

- Hear about the outcomes of the project's working parties that have been discussing and developing six critical issues associated with the project
- Contribute to discussion sessions in which delegates will debate, discuss and propose ideas that have emerged from the work of the project and the presentations on the day.
- Look at issues surrounding the growth of technology-supported informal learning environments and what this means for students, staff and city.

If you wish to attend, please RSVP to Alan Gilmour, project coordinator, on 03 8344 4230 or alandg@unimelb.edu.au.

Hijjas Kasturi Doctorate of Architecture (honoris causa)

HIJJAS BIN KASTURI GRADUATED FROM THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE (AS IT WAS THEN KNOWN) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE WITH A BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE IN 1965, FOLLOWED BY A DIPLOMA OF TOWN & REGIONAL PLANNING IN 1966.

Born in Singapore, Hijjas was awarded a prestigious Colombo Plan Scholarship in 1958 to study architecture, which he began at the University of Adelaide before transferring to Melbourne. From his arrival in Malaysia in 1967, his influence in architectural education, the architecture profession and the shaping of an architectural identity for Malaysia has been inestimable.

He has made an outstanding contribution to architecture in Malaysia and the region, contributing numerous iconic buildings across the country and shaping key aspects the Kuala Lumpur skyline. The significance of Hijjas's role in the development of Malaysian architecture is articulated in the book *Recent Malaysian Architecture* (2007) by Ngiom, who notes Hijjas designed for the first time in Malaysia "in a way that carried an identifiable signature, like an artist would... due to strong articulation of forms, the practice's buildings became iconic landmarks [and] Hijjas Kasturi... probably Malaysia's first architect hero."

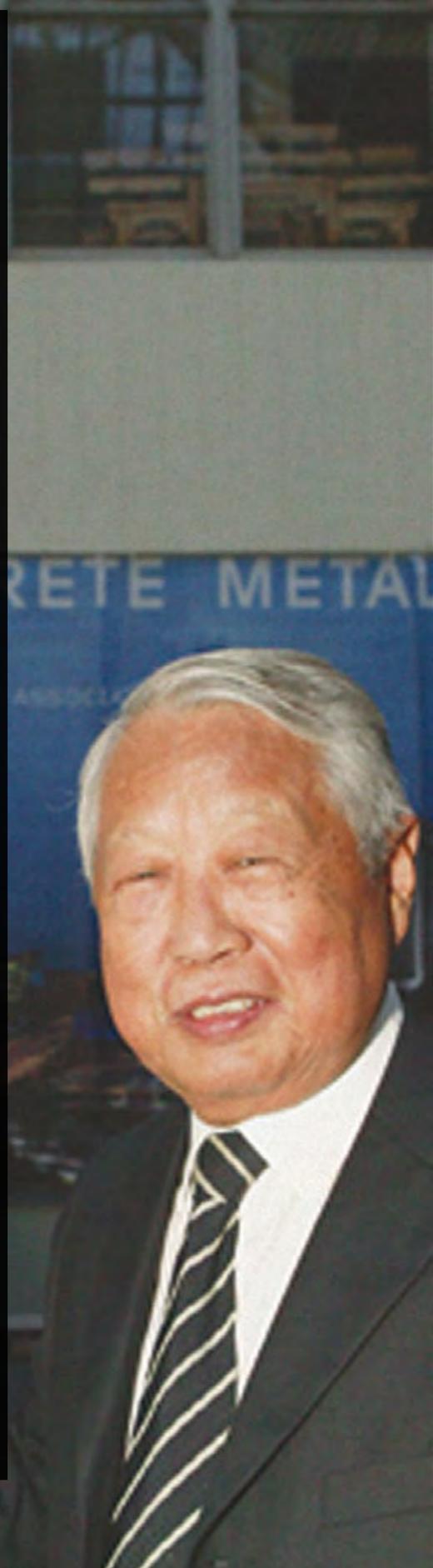
His work has been recognised by numerous awards. Amongst a number of awards for particular buildings, he received a PAM (Malaysian Institute of Architects) Excellence Award (2000) for the Securities Commission Headquarters Building in Kuala Lumpur. Most notably his contribution to the visual arts (architecture) has been recognised with an ASEAN Award (1990) and the 12th Toyko Creation Award in 1998. In 2001, he was awarded the PAM Gold Medal, the Malaysian profession's highest accolade, for his extraordinary contribution Malaysian architecture.

Hijjas's contribution to architectural education has been very important. He was instrumental in establishing Malaysia's first professional degree in architecture at MARA Institute of Technology from 1967, before setting up in private practice in

1969 with Arkitek Bersekutu (Architects' Collaborative). In 1977, he formed Hijjas Kasturi Associates Sdn (HKAS). His vision for architectural education, in the combination of arts and technology, has also found ready expression in his robust designs that explore both technological challenge and the artistry of form. Hijjas has consciously sought to design within the Malaysian cultural context in a sophisticated manner: as he puts it "reconcil[ing] form and function within cultural continuity." His enduring interest in structure and materials is evident such landmark highrises as Tabung Haji, KL (1984), Menara Apera-ULG, KL (1984) and Menara Maybank, KL (1989). More recently, Menara Telekom, KL (2002), proudly continues the firm's tradition of design virtuosity.

Hijjas has maintained his connection with the Faculty of Architecture, Building & Planning through regular return visits and fostering the fledgling careers of new Melbourne graduates through work experience or continuing positions. He continues to actively engage in architectural education through occasional lectures and as an external examiner in Malaysia. His contribution to the arts in the region is also enormously important, particularly through his centre for architecture, creative arts and nature conservation at his property Rimbun Dahan.

Hijjas Kasturi has made a significant and lasting artistic, environmental, technological and professional contribution to architecture and identity in Malaysia. He is a fitting ambassador for the success of the Colombo Plan and its education of the future leaders of the professions in Asia, and the University of Melbourne's proud role in that endeavour.



Program Update: Professional Development and the Melbourne School of Design

THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE HAS RESULTED IN UNCERTAINTY IN MANY SECTORS, SPECIFICALLY THOSE DEPENDANT ON INVESTMENT OR OVERSEAS FINANCE. HOWEVER, THIS REDUCTION IN GROWTH CAN PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS TO COMPLIMENT ALREADY EXISTING QUALIFICATIONS WITH FURTHER STUDY OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, WHICH FURTHER ENHANCE EMPLOYABILITY IN A SLUGGISH ECONOMY BUT ALSO DURING BOOM PERIODS.

In 2008, the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning launched the Melbourne School of Design, the first graduate school in the Asia-Pacific region devoted to design professions responsible for habitable environments.

The Melbourne School of Design is a dynamic, collaborative and interdisciplinary community of students, academics and professionals with a mission to develop leading practitioners and scholars.

Engaging the most advanced studio and seminar-based teaching and research, Melbourne School of Design students will develop new methods of perspectives,

critical reflection and modes of action to address the environmental, social and aesthetic challenges in producing sustainable centres of habitation, locally and internationally.

Professional entry degrees are the pathway to professional accreditation in Architecture, Construction Management, Landscape Architecture, Property and Urban Planning.

Professional development degrees in Property Valuation, Urban Design, and a general program in Planning and Design will seek to strengthen professional knowledge in specialised and advanced practice through current research trends, new design

methods & techniques, multi-disciplinary approaches, industry and research collaboration. All courses have been designed to meet the requirements of a wide range of professional associations and will undergo a regular review process for quality assurance.

We actively encourage enquiries into all programs for intake in 2009.

For further information

visit: <http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/graduate-school/>
email abp-graduateschool@unimelb.edu.au or contact the Environments and Design Student Centre on + 61 3 8344 6417

This issue, we focus on programs relating to Property & Construction Management

Master of Construction Management

Masters of Construction Management is a professional degree for graduates wanting to gain employment in the construction industry. The program focuses on real world projects which range across the full construction management cycle.

- Allows students to develop and build on expertise in quantity surveying, construction law, project management and facility management.
- Covers studies across the full breadth of the building cycle; and
- Provides the opportunity to specialise in the management of the construction process (costing, planning, budgeting and resource allocation).

Duration
2 years full time

The Master of Property provides the opportunity to specialise in the management and analysis of the property development, valuation and investment process.

Master of Property

Master of Property is a professional degree for graduates wanting to gain employment in the property industry. It is an advanced level program which engages with specialist topics in the multi-disciplined field of property development and management.

Duration
2 years full time

Course Overview

The Master of Property focuses on real-world projects which range across the full property and development cycle, preparing students for the realities of professional life. The Master of Property provides advanced study in:

- Property valuation and analysis
- Development and management of property; and
- Professional practice in a property context.

The Master of Property provides the opportunity to specialise in the management and analysis of the property development, valuation and investment process.

EYES EXHIBITION

2008

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE
2008 EYES EXHIBITION OF DESIGN
PROJECTS BY STUDENTS IN THE
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE,
BUILDING AND PLANNING

**Friday 14 November to
Thursday 20 November 2008**
Architecture Building
The University of Melbourne
Opening Night
5:30pm - 8:00pm Friday 14 November 2008
Opening Hours
Monday to Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

GRADUATE EXHIBIT

2008

GRADUATE EXHIBITION
DESIGN EXHIBITION
2008 MELBOURNE
SCHOOL OF DESIGN

**Friday 21 November to
Friday 28 November 2008**
Architecture Building
The University of Melbourne

Opening Night
6:00pm - 9:00pm, Friday 21 November 2008
Opening Hours
Monday to Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

We invite you to join us in celebrating
the exhibition of our graduate design projects
in architecture, landscape architecture and urban
design from the Melbourne School of Design.

Proudly Sponsored by



Travelling Studios in Semester Two

TRAVELLING STUDIOS ARE WORKING LABORATORIES FOR DESIGN THOUGHT AND PRODUCTION AND INVOLVE THE EXPLORATION OF COMPLEX, REAL-LIFE ISSUES. THEY EXPOSE STUDENTS TO UNFAMILIAR CULTURES, PLACES AND PEOPLE AND STIMULATE THEIR ABILITY TO THINK CREATIVELY AND PROBLEM SOLVE.

The Melbourne School of Design offered students several exciting, interdisciplinary travelling studios in Semester 2. Each travelling studio had a quota of places with applicants assessed and selected by a committee on the basis of academic merit and an 'expression of interest' statement.

The Nanjing studio was a joint studio involving students from Melbourne and Nanjing University in Nanjing, China.

Students from both countries collaborated on a project of urban reconstruction in the city of Nanjing. MSD students visited Nanjing during the spring Semester 2 break (22 Sept-5 Oct) for a site visit and an exchange of ideas. The studio will engage learning in more than one of the Faculty's disciplines, thus encouraging an interdisciplinary focus.

Subject objectives

1. To provide students with an experience in international collaboration and a window to China where some of the most active processes of urban renewal in the world are taking place
2. To encourage students to identify and engage critically with issues of environmental sustainability and social and cultural difference in an international setting
3. To stimulate creative thinking and problem solving within students through their experience of how local issues govern planning, design and construction processes in a particular location

Generic skills students will obtain:

1. Basic competence to communicate with design professions in China and Asia
2. Interdisciplinary teamwork
3. Understanding and navigating social and cultural difference
4. Knowledge transfer
5. Organisational collaboration
6. Managing risk

Genoa, Italy

In partnership with the University of Genova, the travel component of the Genoa studio occurred during the spring Semester 2 break (22 Sept-5 Oct).

The studio aimed to bring together students from architecture, urban design, landscape and planning streams and used Genoa's dynamic waterfront to explore current issues in urban and landscape design.

Subject objectives:

1. To encourage students to identify and engage critically with issues of environmental sustainability and social and cultural difference in an international setting
2. To stimulate creative thinking and problem solving within students through their experience of how local issues govern planning, design and construction processes in a particular allocation

Generic skills students will obtain:

1. Interdisciplinary teamwork
2. Understanding and navigating social and cultural difference
3. Knowledge transfer
4. Organisational collaboration
5. Managing risk



Brawn and brains win national education prize

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AND UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE EMERITUS PROFESSOR GRAHAM BRAWN HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THE WINNER OF THE NATIONAL 2008 NEVILLE QUARRY ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION PRIZE.

Sponsored by Autodesk and presented at the Australian Institute of Architects 2008 National Architecture Awards in Adelaide on Thursday 30 October, this important national prize recognises the significance of architectural education in the promotion and improvement of the built environment.

In awarding the prize to Graham, the award jury praised his contribution to architectural education and research in Australia, in particular for his inspirational teaching of design in the studio environment.

"His teaching was noted by his peers and commented on by many of his former students as being an educational experience that made a significant contribution to their professional careers," jury chair and Institute National President Howard Tanner said. "His role in connecting architectural theory, research and practice is regarded as exemplary."

At the University of Melbourne, Graham was responsible for the introduction in 1987 of the Masters of Architecture examined by design, the first of its kind in Australia. In 2006 he established the Masters of Work Place Planning and Design. His involvement in the planning of major buildings such as museums, hospitals and workplace environments has provided a valuable connection between academia and practice.

The jury awarded a Commendation to Rachel Hurst, Senior Lecturer in Architecture at the University of South Australia, for her contribution in the field of undergraduate design teaching. Rachel's emphasis on innovation in design teaching, the Master Series of talks by prominent architects, and many published articles make her an inspiration to others, and an exemplar for the future of teaching in Australia

The 2008 Neville Quarry Prize jury members were: National President Howard Tanner, Professor Des Smith, Professor Mads Gaardboe, Professor Stephen Frith, and SONA President Alysia Bennett.

Success at the 2008 Victorian Planning Excellence Awards



Congratulations to **Carolyn Whitzman** whose recent book, *The Handbook of Community Safety, Gender, and Violence Prevention: practical planning tools* won an Award for Planning Scholarship, Research, and Teaching at the 2008 Victorian Planning Excellence Awards, organized by the Planning Institute of Australia (Victorian Division).

The Student Award (Tertiary) was won by Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development students **James Sutherland, Hang Do, Edward Wilkinson, Akemi Trail, and Zidi Zito**, whose project *Reading Docklands* was developed in the Planning and Policy Studio taught by **Angela Munro**. University of Melbourne students have won this award 3 of the past 5 years.

Carmel Boyce, Master of Urban Planning student and Social Planner at City of Greater Geelong, was involved in not one but two award-winning projects - David Lock Associates and the City of Greater Geelong won a Social and Community Based Planning Award for *Leopold Community Hub and Strategic Footpath Network Projects*, and the same collaboration won a Planning for Health and Wellbeing Award for *Implementing Clause 56 - Walkability Toolkit*.

The City of Melbourne won a Local Government Award for *Future Melbourne - A Community Plan to 2020*. A number of Faculty staff and students have been involved in this 13 month process, including **Rebecca Jerram, Tom Kvan, Kate Shaw, Carolyn Whitzman**, as well as her postgraduate students in the subject Participation and Negotiation 2006, who helped analyse the first round of community consultations.

From the Faculty

CONGRATULATIONS

Greg Missingham who was advised this week that he has been appointed to Associate Professor from January 1 next year.

Catherin Bull who has recently been appointed to the national Built Environment Industry Innovation Council. The industry council has the charter to provide advice to government on priorities and issues arising from challenges such as climate change, sustainability and industry competitiveness as well as issues such as regulatory reform, workforce capability, skills needs and access to new technology.

Chris Heywood and **Anna Hurlimann** who have both recently been promoted to the positions of Senior Lecturer.

Clare Newton and **Associate Professor Kenn Fisher** who are the winners of the 2008 Australian Institute of Architects annual Sisalation Prize. The Prize offers authors the opportunity to produce a publication in the esteemed Australian Institute of Architects 'Take' series of architectural journals. They will develop "*Take 8 - Learning Spaces: The transformation of educational spaces for the 21st century*", with anticipated publication late next year

Carolyn Whitzman presented on the GLOVE (Gender, Local Governance, Violence Prevention) project at the 5th World Conference on the Promotion of Mental Health and Prevention of Mental and Behavioural Disorders (From Margins to Mainstream) yesterday

EXHIBITIONS, LECTURES AND EXPEDITIONS

Victor Chen has been invited to give an address to the Trade and Agriculture Directorate of the OECD on Services Trade Restrictiveness Indices (STRI) in Paris on 10-12th December.

Hemanta Doloi has been invited by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) Australasia to give a breakfast seminar to CIOB and Engineers Australia professional members in Perth on Wednesday 19 November 2008. The invitation was received as an acknowledgement of his recently published research book *Life Cycle Project Management – a Systems based approach to Managing Complex Projects*. He has been asked to talk about the new theoretical development reported in the book and how this will provide a new insight in improving the traditional practices of managing complex projects.

A five day tour of Jordan by a group consisting mainly of Faculty staff and connections took place from 26 September to 1 October. Apart from the well-known (but wonderful) sites of Petra and Jerash, a number of little known sites were inspected, notably Byzantine churches of about the sixth century; centralised churches at Gadara and Jerash; the Church of the Virgin at Madaba; the western style Ridge Church at Petra; and a mysterious church at Rabba consisting largely of recycled materials. The trip was organised by **Miles Lewis** and included Mary Lewis, **Jeff Turnbull**, Anna Ely, Kate Gamble and Jeff Topp, Professor Annaclaudia Trentalance (Paolo Tombesi's mother), plus five others from outside the Faculty.

On Monday 13 October 2008, a group of fifteen Masters of Architecture students exhibited their designs for a prefabricated sustainable kitchen-classroom at the Abbotsford Convent as part of The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation's inaugural national conference – The Kitchen Garden Classroom. The exhibition accompanied a special session of the conference devoted to kitchen classroom design hosted by Radio National's Alan Saunders with speakers including architect Freda Thornton **Professor Philip Goad**, and environmental designer Derek Ashby.

Scott Heyes took a group of his students to the Coorong and Lower-Lakes region of SA. The field trip formed a component of the new Indigenous Conceptions of Landscape subject that Scott coordinates. Students met with *Ngarrendjeri* Elders at Camp Coorong and visited a number of sites of significance to the local aboriginal people along the Coorong, Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina. The Elders expressed much concern about the current state of the Murray-Darling River System and its impact on their well-being.

Alex Selenitsch's exhibition *How are things at home?* was installed at the Geelong Gallery from Sept 13 – Oct 19. This series of exhibited works evolved from Alex's recent travels to Vienna and Berlin and take the form of drawings, models and texts. Their starting point is based on a typical suburban house, similar to one Alex grew up in the 1950s and '60s, in the then new suburb of Bell Park. A number of drawings and collages use abandoned maps from the Geelong and Regional Town Plan as a base and as a source of colour and pattern. Both the house design and the maps are used as found images or materials that are subjected to different kinds of re-use and transformation.

BOOKS

Australian Artists Books by **Alex Selenitsch** has been released. This is a 120 page, fully illustrated study of some of the artists books in the collection of the National Gallery of Australia, and consists of notes on definition of the genre, essays on the books of Ian Burn, Bea Maddock, Robert Jacks, Mike Parr and shorter notes on a selection of other books. It is one of three books published by the Gallery in The Printed Image: Asia, Australia, Pacific series.

Educating in the Arts: The Asian Experience, Twenty-Four Essays, edited by **Lindy Joubert** has been published by Springer, The Netherlands

Jianfei Zhu's new book *Architecture of Modern China* has just been published by Routledge. His book will be launched in the Faculty early in November.

Hemanta Doloi's book *Life Cycle Project Management: A Systems Based Approach to Managing Complex Projects* was launched on Wednesday 8 October in the Atrium by Sean Sweeney (Executive Director, Major Projects Victoria).

Darko Radovic's book *urbophilia* was launched on Friday 24 October by Professor Rob Adams, Director, City Design and Urban Environment.

FUNDING/ GRANT SUCCESS

Congratulations to **Kim Dovey** and **Kate Shaw**, whose application for a highly competitive ARC Discovery Project for 2009 '*Planning the 'creative' city: reconciling global strategies with local subcultures*' was successful. The project also includes Dr Stephen Wood, currently working at the University of New England, but who is one of our (Kim's) former PhD students. ARC (Australian Research Council) grants are the major Australian government awards to fund research. Kate has also won an Australian post doctoral fellowship to work on this grant. These fellowships are probably even more competitive than the grants with only 100 awarded around the country.

David Nichols was named on a winning ARC Discovery Project grant '*Cultural sustainability in Australian country towns: amenity, mobility, and everyday life*' led by the University of Sydney.

Robert Crawford on his successful grant of nearly \$5k from the 2008 Chartered Institute of Building Australasia for his project Modelling the embodied energy, water and greenhouse emissions of building construction assemblies

Congratulations to **Margaret Grose** who has been successful in obtaining an ECR grant of \$36k for the project: "*Establishing the diversity of colour in florals of suburbanising Australia*".

Mentors of two Dreamlarge: Knowledge Transfer Student Grants which are mentored by academic colleagues. **David O'Brien** is mentor for the project *Connecting Cultures: Strategies for Sustainable Indigenous Housing* and **Alan March** is mentor for the project *Knowledge Transfer Seminars: Urban Planning Career Development*, both of which have received funding.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Alex Belcastro (3rd year, BPD (P&C)) has won the 2008 NAWIC Outstanding Student of the Year award. She was awarded a trophy last Friday evening at the MCG dining room and the University of Melbourne also received recognition during the ceremony. She notes that this personal achievement would not have been possible without the education she continues to receive at the University and the opportunities that she had in the last three years as an undergraduate in the faculty to further herself professionally and academically.

Lee Wei Kit (1st year MArch) was awarded 2nd prize in the recent Australian Institute of Architects Victorian Chapter Student Design Competition for his work in Patrick Janssen's Semester 1 Master of Architecture studio focussing on suburban housing. The competition also had support from the Office of Housing and Office of the Victorian Government Architect.



Atrium

09 | 2008

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Published by the Faculty
of Architecture, Building and Planning

Co-Editors: Melanie Schoo
and Michele Burder

Design: Studio Binocular

Images: Basspixel.com;

Authorised by Professor Tom Kvan, Dean
Faculty of Architecture, Building & Planning
Copyright: Faculty of Architecture, Building
and Planning, November 2008.

ISSN 1447-1728

The University of Melbourne
CRICOS provider code: 00116K