



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

# atrium<sup>2004</sup>

faculty of architecture  
building and planning  
the university of melbourne  
issue three



John Maidment with rare books from the Architecture and Planning Library. Photo: Paul Richiardi

**Work-Life Balance**

**Gold Medals for Corrigan and Burgess**

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**Books**

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## FROM THE DEAN

Professor Ruth Fincher

As I write this message to you, classes have just finished for the 2004 academic year and our students are about to enter the examination period. Members of the academic staff are engaged in the important but time-consuming process of end-of-year assessment. Our administrative staff are gearing up for the processing of examination results, the selection of new students and re-enrolment of continuing students for 2005. The rhythms of the new academic year are starting even as the present one is yet to be completed.

At the end of 2004 the Faculty has a total of 1793 students enrolled in its programs, of which 1429 are undergraduates. Most of these are full-time students. More than 30 per cent of the undergraduates enrolled in the Faculty are international students; our Faculty has the second highest percentage of international undergraduates in the University, its percentage in this regard exceeded only by that of the Faculty of Economics and Commerce. In 2004 we had 55 members of academic staff and 32 administrative staff. So the Faculty is growing, and one of our ambitions in the next few years is to increase the number of academic staff in relation to the number of students we teach.

We have made some exciting new appointments to the academic staff of the Faculty in the past year. The eminent writer and artist Paul Carter has joined us for a five-year term as a Professorial Fellow (Paul's work is discussed on page 9). Rob Adams, the well-known urban designer and architect from the City of Melbourne, has become an Honorary Professorial Fellow of the Faculty. In the Property and Construction program, Dr Lynne Armitage joined us in mid-2004. Two more new colleagues will begin in that program in early 2005: Dr Henanta

Doloi and Ms Sarah Wilkinson. Dr Sidh Sintusingha will be a new lecturer in Landscape Architecture. As you will see elsewhere in *Atrium*, the research achievements of our academic staff are expanding and becoming more diverse. This is attributable in no small part to those who have joined our ranks in the last few years.

One outcome of our growing size is that we now have additional buildings allocated to us on the central campus. In 2002 the Faculty took occupancy of most of the Baldwin Spencer Building, to the north-west of our main building. Students from our coursework Masters programs in design are located there, along with staff teaching design in the postgraduate programs of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. In the next two months, we will also be occupying the Old Commerce building immediately to the west of the Architecture and Planning building. Clusters of staff from the Urban Planning and Property and Construction programs will have offices there, along with a group of administrative staff. A new Faculty reception desk will be placed on the ground floor. To this set of expansions are to be added the first steps in refurbishment of the Architecture and Planning building. We have worked with Bates Smart on the Master Plan and its implementation for the past six months.

Once again the Faculty's Dean's Lecture Series has been a huge success. We are all grateful to Dr Greg Missingham for planning this major series which draws our current and past students, together with members of the local community of built environment professionals, to our Faculty in the evenings to hear wonderful lecturers. This year, as in the past, speakers from universities and practices far and wide have made presentations, as have our own eminent staff and some of Melbourne's leading practitioners including RAIA Gold Medal recipients and Faculty alumni Gregory Burgess and Peter Corrigan (see pages 4 and 5). Included amongst the international

guests was the architect and urban designer Professor Claire Parin, of L'École d'Architecture et de Paysage in Bordeaux, France.

Professor Parin was at the University as part of a group of students and staff from her University in France, participating in what we refer to as the 'BMB' Project. BMB stands for Bangkok-Melbourne-Bordeaux, representing a three-university collaboration in teaching and learning. During 2004, staff and students from the three universities came to Melbourne for a week-long program, having previously been to Bangkok for the same purpose (see page 14). In April 2005 the program will conclude with a workshop in Bordeaux.

Singling out events of particular note in the past year or so is difficult, as there have been so many. Close to my heart was the launch of the Ledgar Prize in Urban Planning, a student prize established in perpetuity to honour the foundation Professor of Town Planning in the Faculty, Professor Fred Ledgar (see page 3). Staff and alumni of the Faculty's planning program worked hard to raise funds for this prize, and we were delighted to meet Professor Ledgar's wife, Renee, and other members of his family at the launch. Another event I want to mention is the inaugural meeting of *Universitas21* deans of faculties and schools of the built environment, which is to be held at the University of Melbourne this month. *Universitas 21* is a network of universities around the world whose interest is in furthering collaborative learning, research and benchmarking. We have high hopes that this meeting, which we have initiated, will begin to establish additional, useful networks for the Faculty's staff and students around the world.

I will close by expressing my appreciation for the Faculty's wonderful staff and students, for their fine achievements and collegiality over the past year. It has been a pleasure to work with them.



## KEVIN O'CONNOR APPOINTED PROFESSOR

by Professor Ruth Fincher

Professor Kevin O'Connor took up a position as Associate Professor in the Urban Planning Program of the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning. This appointment followed a long and successful career at Monash University, where he began as a Lecturer in 1975. Professor O'Connor had encountered the University of Melbourne previously, taking out a Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) in 1966, a Diploma of Education in 1967, and a Master of Commerce in 1971, all at this University. His PhD in the field of urban economic geography is from McMaster University in Canada.

Professor O'Connor's work on the **Of particular interest have been his investigations of international trade in services, and of the airline and global finance industries.**

economic structure and planning of cities has focussed on changes in the character and location of manufacturing and services industries and how these have influenced urban form and employment patterns. Internationally, he is best known for his research on producer services industries—he has led most expertly the establishment of international working groups on this topic, collaborating with a large number of fine scholars. Of particular interest have been his investigations of international trade in services, and of the airline and global finance industries.

Within Australia, his writing on economic performance in our country's regional cities and towns, his comparisons of Australian regional labour markets, and his documentation of the great Australian divide between metropolitan Australia and the rest, have drawn most attention. Here, his four jointly-authored books

have been influential: *The Economic Role of Cities: Economic Change and City Development* (K. O'Connor and R. Stimson, 1995, AGPS), *Population and Employment Growth in Australia: Regional Hot Spots and Cold Spots 1986-1996* (R. Stimson, F. Shuaib, K. O'Connor, 1999, UQ Press), *Community Opportunity and Vulnerability in Australia's Cities and Towns* (S. Baum, R. Stimson, K. O'Connor, P. Mullins, R. Davis, 2000, UQ Press), and *Australia's Changing Economic Geography: A Society Dividing* (K. O'Connor, R. Stimson, M. Daly, 2001, Oxford UP).

In Melbourne, Professor O'Connor's research has assessed patterns and causes of suburban development, industrial change, and the links between employment and housing markets. His voice is often heard and read in the media in Melbourne, for journalists rely on his expert interpretations of a wide range of urban economic trends.

Over many years Professor O'Connor has contributed his work to governments and to groups within the planning, property and construction professions, an important role for a senior academic in urban planning. He has been evaluated as a magnificent teacher by scores of undergraduate and postgraduate students and was awarded the Faculty's inaugural Faculty Teaching Award. He has been a consistent high achiever in competitive research grant rounds, and his contributions to academic management are consistent, generous and effective. He is a longstanding contributor to international and national professional organizations in planning, regional science and economic geography.

The Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning applauds the contribution of Professor Kevin O'Connor to the field of urban planning, and celebrates his promotion to professor in 2003.

## PRIZE FOR TOP YOUNG PLANNERS



A prestigious new annual prize for the top graduate in the University of Melbourne's Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development program was launched in July 2003 by the Dean of Architecture Building and Planning, Professor Ruth Fincher.

The Ledgar Prize in Urban Planning commemorates the contribution of the late pioneer and academic-leader in urban and regional planning, Frederick William Ledgar, to both the education of planners at the University and to the profession of urban planning.

Professor Ledgar was Victoria's, and the University of Melbourne's, first Professor of Town and Regional Planning.

Key guests at the launch of the prize included members of the Ledgar family, who travelled from interstate, friends, staff and work colleagues of the late Professor Ledgar and members of the planning profession.

Professor Fincher, whose field is urban planning, said generous support for the Ledgar Prize in Urban Planning led to a total of \$58,000 being raised over the past two and a half years, which was "well over target".

"Support has come from various work colleagues who knew Fred and from planning firms and organisations. Particularly generous have been the City of Melbourne, the Urban and Regional Land Corporation and the Melbourne company Ausvest Holdings.

"The prize provides for the winning student to receive a substantial award in cash," she said.

Andrew Burrige (BUPD 2003) was awarded the inaugural Ledgar Prize in Urban Planning at the Faculty's annual Dean's Honours and Awards Night on Friday 2 April, 2004. He received \$2000.



## BEARING GIFTS FOR GREGORY BURGESS

RAIA Gold Medal Awarded 2004

by Professor Paul Carter

Gregory Burgess's (BArch 1970) buildings release the poetic in language. As buildings do not stand in for senses that could be communicated differently, so with the 'language' appropriate to evoking the meaning of Greg's buildings. It is a language that takes responsibility for the creative principle at its core. It does not shave words away to unsustainably sharp definitions; it follows instead their branching, tracing the associations simultaneously felt in different directions as expressions of a generative impulse.

In this way, language and architecture find their common root in poesis, that act of articulation that makes us human. If this were not the case, we could not explain that sense we have, repeatedly and enduringly in Greg's buildings, that they call to us, that they listen for our response.

A poetic word, a word considered poetically, that articulates the nature of Greg's architectural understanding is bearing. Tracing the relationship between the word's different, but related, connotations is analogous to the experience Greg's buildings afford us when, wandering in and out of them, we experience an association of places whose infolding unfolds without exhaustion.

In such mindful structures there are many entrances. Here, to begin, bearing describes an orientation. As destinations, buildings, like natural features, give one bearings; as points of departure, they are places from which one takes one's bearings. These definitions imply a mobility that is linear. In contrast, Greg's buildings characteristically incorporate a double movement, counterpointed energies that hook into each other. The orientation thus implied is rotational, tilted or frictional. Habitation—one might think of the relatively early Young-Pash House project of 1980—revolves

around memories of arrival and leaving. Spiritual, topographical and visual alignments are braided into energy forms that supply the other of the architectural will to form. The result is a 'contorsion', a turning, that recovers the active sense of orientation. Greg's houses are tropical, in implying a turning towards.

The allusion to light brings me to a second sense of bearing, the bearing of one presence or form on another. The relationship with others can be linear and universal, or it can be weblike and branching. It can be solar or stellar. In this regard Greg's proclivities are clear. From the pentagonal entry hall of the aptly-named Southern Cross Primary School of 1982, with its star-shaped

### Greg's buildings bear bodies as creatures bear children.

skylight, to the Catholic Theological College Library, he has imagined the influence thoughtful places exert on one another in terms of starlight. Community is, of course, a matter of gathering, but it is also a question of giving room to the dark reaches between. In the elastic waveforms of Greg's roofs and walls, a reflection of the environment is both gathered and spread out. Darkness is woven into the light in a magical way that produces both shelter and the tropic dance of Greg's distinguished series of arbours and pavilions.

What are the fruit that buildings bear? What are the children born there? I think Conrad Hamann is right when he emphasises the image of sexual union that Greg's buildings afford. The Hackford House, the twelve Apostles Information centre: in their different places, these are buildings that dig in and leap out; at once, as Conrad puts it, phallic and fallopian. It is here, if anywhere, I locate the Aboriginal resonances of Greg's work, in the intuition of the fertile place

as the simultaneous invagination and projection of space that occurs in that turning I mentioned before.

Here, at the Northcote Community Health Centre, or at the Church of St Michael and St John, Horsham, upright bearing is the patent of a local understanding. The tallness is the windhover's, imagining its wings extended like hawsers to the earth. Here the figure of wrath is transformed into the figure of Piero's Madonna della Misericordia. It is a bearing towards the earth, from which its strength (and its materials) are, most notably at Horsham, humbly drawn and redistributed. And it is a bearing up, a resolve to make a life at that place, whose combination produces shelter, the condition of fruitfulness. Greg's buildings bear bodies as creatures bear children.

This notion of bearing up introduces another theme. The cosmic lyricism of Greg's constellated settlements is not in freefall. It has its historical landscape—a sense of existential homelessness which the last century bequeathed us, and, locally, our unfinished business with the people in whose homes we live. Here, I see Greg's work staging the responsibility architecture must take for the conditions of its production. Repose is, as it were, reposed, as something conditional on the making of community; and one obvious implication of his constellated spaces, whether it's Brambuk Living Heritage Centre or Burraworin, is their intent to make room for those histories, scattered across the night sky of our collective memory, but rarely regarded. It is the incorporation of this dispersed intelligence that makes the intensification of shadow in Greg's buildings bearable, transforming the melancholy associated with care into a caring, a load that can be born hopefully.

None of these connotations of bearing would bear on our subject, if they did

continued on page 21

## PETER CORRIGAN CATALYTIC PASSION

RAIA Gold Medal Awarded 2003

by Dr Greg Missingham

Peter Corrigan (BArch 1966) finished his 2004 Dean's Lecture, *Room Temperature*, comparing his first final-year design project, a religious centre, with his most recently completed project, the Newman and St Mary's Colleges' Education Centre, on the same site—behind Newman College, against the University Oval. Failed for being at the pub or theatre rather than in the studio ...

*In the end, I was rather pleased. It gave me another year at the University, another year's mooching, drinking, thinking, talking.<sup>1</sup>*

The early part of his lecture was a running, detailed critique of his 2003 A S Hook Memorial Address. This public examination of his experience, the profession and architecture in Australia exhibited the passionate commitment to education and to the cultural life of his community for which he is known and loved.

Corrigan's own education began with the Christian Brothers in St Kilda, included an incomplete Commerce degree and completed Bachelor of Architecture at this University, and a Master of Environmental Design at Yale. But his erudition is as much self-generated as formal. A voracious reader of everything from art history, Aristophanes and Simon Schama to Nugget Coombes and Joyce Carol Oates, besides architecture, his deservedly legendary office library fuels an eclectic intelligence.

He worked for such architects as Phillip Johnson, Paul Rudolph, Caesar Pelli and Kevin Roche in New Haven and New York when, in 1975, he was brought back to do the set for Don Giovanni for the Australian Opera. Then he began architectural practice in Melbourne with Maggie Edmond.

If the public rhetoric is replete with pithy anecdotes, the architectural method and discussion with clients depends

on the use of sketch models, like the theatre design. From the unbuilt Trinder House project at Corio through to the notable public buildings at Mortlake, Keysborough, Box Hill, Sale, RMIT, Belconnen, Ringwood, Southbank (for the Melbourne Theatre Company) and now the University, the work has been both provocative and formally innovative.

### Corrigan has led both by example and through the vigorous promotion of the architecture and architects of this city in arts, educational, public, publishing and political forums.

The middle section of his Dean's Lecture considered the design for the Ligetti opera, *Le Grande Macabre*, at the Komischeoper in Berlin. (The brilliant success of the Barry Kosky production is widely credited with saving that company.) Twice winner of Green Room Awards as a prolific designer for drama and opera around Australia, originally in the US and now in Europe, as with the architecture, the emphasis of Corrigan's work is on the connections between program, discourse and ideas.

The work of Edmond & Corrigan has been widely published in Europe, the US, Japan and Australia and has been the subject of two monographs.<sup>2</sup> The firm has won 22 state awards (three state medals), four National Architectural Design Awards, was invited by the French government to represent Australia at the Paris Biennale, exhibited in 1991 both at the Venice Biennale and in the Third Triennial of World Architecture, Belgrade and, in 2003, the Chapel of St Joseph received the State Chapter Award for being the most significant piece of architecture in Victoria for the last 25 years.

Corrigan is Adjunct Professor of Architectural Design in the School

of Architecture and Design at RMIT University. In 1983–84, he was a Guest Professor in the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. In 1989, he received the first Honorary Doctorate of Architecture from RMIT for his contribution to Australian architectural theory and design. In 1991, he was Guest Lecturer at the Politecnico di Torino, Italy and, in 1999, he was included in the *Allgemeines Künstlerlexikon*, one of the world's foremost references to artists of all periods, regions, and cultures.

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It is no accident that Melbourne is also home to such sources of other, colourful, nonrectilinear architecture in Greg Burgess, Ashton Raggatt MacDougall, Lyon Architects, Lab Architecture Studio and Wood Marsh, and that Corrigan was behind (the sadly missed) *Transition* magazine.

For all his contributions, Peter Corrigan was declared the Royal Australian Institute of Architects Gold Medallist in 2003.

<sup>1</sup> In an interview, 4 May 1979. A more complex project of a similar program on a site at Monash University passed in the following year, 1966.

<sup>2</sup> Hamann, Conrad (with Michael Anderson, Winsome Callister), 1993, *Cities of Hope*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, and: van Schaik, Leon, exec. ed, 1996, *Building 8*, Schwartz Transition Monographs, Melbourne.

Dr Greg Missingham's research interests include meaning, symbolism and interpretation (hermeneutics), formal rhetoric, place settings at home and work, design approaches and methods, contemporary media and architecture. Current source materials include classical Chinese gardens, Chinese, Japanese and other literature, first architectures, key Melbourne architects, alchemy, Greenaway's and others' films and the television of Dennis Potter.



## RARE ARCHITECTURAL GEMS SEARCHABLE ONLINE

Outstanding holdings of architectural materials dating from 1736, many of great rarity and historical value, are available to scholars and the public for the first time through a University of Melbourne library catalogue on the web.

The rare materials collection in the Architecture and Planning Library includes seminal architectural texts and graphic materials dating from settlement to the early-20th century, including engravings and lithographic plates.

**the University holds a complete set of the major works of renowned architect and writer A W N Pugin in original editions**

Architecture and Planning Librarian, Mr John Maidment, says access to the materials follows completion of an extensive project to catalogue the many thousands of volumes in the library's closed access stacks.

He says the cataloguing, by Information Acquisition and Organisation (IAO) specialist Ms Barbara Spiller (Information Division), required more than 18 months' work, with support from other key IAO staff and from Professor Miles Lewis.

Bibliographic record searches on the National Library of Australia's Kinetica database show more than 30 per cent of the material is nationally unique.

"For example, we now know that the University holds a complete set of the major works of renowned architect and writer A W N Pugin in original editions, together with those of E E Viollet-le-Duc," says Mr Maidment.

The collection has largely been built up from donations, particularly from the

collections of local architects and from the library of the former Royal Victorian Institute of Architects.

"Significant collections of material from major local architects and planners such as Harold Desbrowe-Annear, A E Twentyman, A R and Walter R Butler, Bart Moriarty, Alec S Hall, Frank Heath and Alan R Murray may be found together with those of collectors such as Frederic Dougan Bird," he says.

"Some materials include annotations and architectural ideas can be followed through to specific buildings. Desbrowe-Annear's books have a stunning bookplate designed by his friend and client Napier Waller, depicting a galleon in full sail."

Mr Maidment says cataloguing has greatly facilitated access to and usage of the Library's holdings, which previously were mostly unknown. "Researchers had to obtain items from elsewhere on inter-library loan or travel overseas to places such as the Royal Institute of British Architects library in London."

The collections catalogue is searchable from the Architecture and Planning Library home page at [www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/architecture](http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/architecture) or the main library homepage.

Materials are available on request for study in the Architecture and Planning Library on level four of the Architecture and Planning Building.

Enquiries +61 3 8344 0444.

## TOURS



ABP is offering a number of international study tours in 2005. These tours are open to current students, alumni and members of the community.

**The City Assembled:  
Study Tour of Germany, Italy and the Czech Republic**  
18 June–13 July 2005

Mario Gutjahr, the Faculty's Head of Urban Planning, is leading a 25-day study tour of Germany, Italy and the Czech Republic in June and July 2005.

For a full itinerary, cost and reservation form and further information please contact:  
Australians Studying Abroad  
Level 1, Office 6  
1087–1095 High Street Armadale  
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**Alvar Aalto and the Organic Tradition:  
Study tour of Finland**  
3 July–16 July 2005

Dr Scott Drake, Senior Lecturer in Architectural Design, is leading a 12-day study tour of Finland in July 2005. The tour will focus on the work of Alvar Aalto (1898–1976), and will also visit works of contemporary architecture throughout Finland.

For further information and to register your interest in the tour please contact Scott Drake on [sdrake@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:sdrake@unimelb.edu.au) or tel: + 61 3 8344 7061 by no later than 31 December 2004.

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## CAREER MENTOR PROGRAM

In 2004 the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning initiated career mentoring programs for students in architecture, property and construction, and landscape architecture. The purpose of these programs was to facilitate connections with the professions and to provide insights into the realities of the workforce. The ultimate aim was to assist students with their transition out of the University and into their careers.

The architecture and property and construction programs were offered to third-year students prior to their work experience year. Forty-one architecture students were matched either singly or in groups with 17 mentors, and the 31 property, construction or quantity surveying students were matched with 18 mentors. The landscape architecture program was offered to later-year undergraduate or postgraduate students, with 15 students matched with 13 mentors.

Students and mentors met at the official launch by the Vice-Chancellor in April and arranged to have five further meetings throughout the year. Meetings included office-based discussions, site visits or meetings, and visits to completed projects. One of the meetings was a career forum where mentors spoke about their career paths and students talked with a range of mentors.

Students have enjoyed the opportunity to develop networks, gain practical insights and experience, and explore the diversity of their career options. "Although my mentor is a very busy man we talked and discussed so solidly that we lost track of time. He is exactly the type of person that I could have hoped to meet." (Tristan Turner, Property & Construction)

Mentors also enjoy the program, and sometimes find they are unexpectedly learning too, as well as giving something back to the profession. "The students are a pleasure to work with and I hope that they are enjoying the experience and gaining from it." (David Morrison, Hassells)

If you are interested in becoming a mentor and have the time for six meetings with students in 2005 please visit [www.services.unimelb.edu.au/cmcc/](http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/cmcc/) or contact:

Liz Everist  
Careers Mentor Connection Program  
Tel: + 61 3 8344 3377  
Email: [l.everist@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:l.everist@unimelb.edu.au)

## CONTEMPORARY ASIAN URBANISM:

Beijing Study Tour An Intensive Short Course By Dr Jianfei Zhu



To help create a cross-cultural teaching and learning environment and to expose students to an international work environment, Jianfei Zhu and Steve Whitford offered a short course in the winter of 2004: Contemporary Asian Urbanism. This subject introduced the conditions, problems and aspirations of Asian cities by looking at Beijing as one of the primary examples. Imparting established knowledge was combined with on-site exploration of the new and the problematic. A history of Beijing, a history of modern and current urban and architectural design in China, and methods of urban and social analysis were introduced as a tentative framework. Within this framework, each student was able to choose his/her own particular topic. The topics included contextual issues (e.g. history, statistics, cinema), urban design (Tiananmen Square CBD), and architectural 'moments' (including Henry Murphy in the 1920s, National Style of the 1950s, and Cui Kai and Yung Ho Chang in 2000). The final submissions will be put together as one collective document, based on students' research and the open framework developed from the subject coordinators' earlier research.

Twenty-four students were selected for the six-week program. The program was divided into a three-week intensive study in Melbourne, a 10-day visit to Beijing, and a week and half of research after returning from Beijing. The final submission was on display in the atrium during July 2004.

In Beijing, there was a collaborative workshop where staff and students from both Peking University and the University of Melbourne, together with influential Chinese architects and scholars, presented their reflections and studies on Beijing. Melbourne students Asha Nicholas, Paul Bickell and Victoria Reeves chaired three sessions of the presentations.

The bilingual proceedings of the seminar is to be published as a commercial book by a Beijing publisher. China Central Television (CCTV, channel 4) visited the seminar and interviewed staff from Melbourne. The focus of the interview was on the relations between Melbourne and Peking Universities.

After the exhibition in the atrium, ABC Radio Australia interviewed some of the students (Jess Herzberg, Yu-Fan Lin, Conor Larkins, Allan Xu and Rowan Brown) and both staff members. This interview will be broadcast in early 2005 in a program featuring Beijing and another five cities as part of a series on mega-cities in the region.

Steve Whitford teaches design in the undergraduate architecture and Master of Urban Design programs. His work in collaboration with Brearley Architecture and Urbanism (BAU) in Shanghai includes four international competition winning entries.

Jianfei Zhu teaches design and undertakes research with a focus on urban issues in cross-cultural perspectives.

Images:

1. A generic urban landscape of Beijing, Photo: Steve Whitford
2. Students in a street near the Drum Tower. Photo: Steve Whitford
3. At the collaborative seminar. From left to right: Zhang Jie (Tsinghua University), Cui Kai (China Architecture Design and Research Institute), Jianfei Zhu, Steve Whitford, Yung Ho Chang (Peking University). Photo: Grace Amelia Djayaprabha.
4. Changan Avenue: the east-west boulevard. Photo: Jianfei Zhu



## THE SMITH STREET REPORT

by Professor Miles Lewis

Faculty members recently collaborated in an important initiative in planning reform. A major development proposed for Smith Street, Collingwood seemed so outrageous and so serious an issue in terms of public policy that Professors Kim Dovey, Philip Goad, Miles Lewis and Kevin O'Connor agreed to collaborate in a critical review.

A number of other experts were invited to contribute to the report, including representatives from bodies like the National Trust, the Town & Country Planning Association, and the local Collingwood Action Group. From within the Faculty further contributions were made by Nigel Flanning and PhD candidate Kate Shaw.

The proposal in question was for a large scale, mixed-use development between Smith Street and Little Oxford street. It included 253 dwellings in three towers, a 24-hour supermarket, other retail shops, offices, and a multi-level carpark. The site itself seemed to contain little of importance, but was part of a larger conservation area in Smith Street.

There were good arguments for increased residential accommodation in the area, but it was hard to see how roads like Smith Street, Johnston Street, and Victoria Street, already packed at peak hour, could accommodate extra traffic. The effect on the scale of Smith Street would be catastrophic, and the impact on the neighbouring apartments, facing high walls and loading docks in Little Oxford Street, would be most unpleasant. But more importantly, absolutely nothing was being done to provide any public benefit such as urban spaces, community facilities or conservation work.

The nub of the issue examined in the report was that this development proposal had been rationalised as being in conformity with the Government's

Melbourne 2030 policy. How was it possible that a policy which is almost universally supported could have produced such an outrageous result? And this would be a precedent for the future, not just in Smith Street, but all over Melbourne.

The essence of Melbourne 2030 is that the city cannot be allowed to keep on growing outwards. Nor is it acceptable that every suburban street should be degraded by badly designed and uncoordinated flat developments which are parasitic upon the neighbours. This is what gave rise to

**absolutely nothing was being done to provide any public benefit - such as urban spaces, community facilities or conservation work.**

the Save Our Suburbs movement. Instead, new residential development should be concentrated in 'activity centres', chosen for their accessibility to public transport, retailing and other facilities, and for NOT threatening important heritage or other assets.

The report's authors were not required to conform to any common view, and they did not do so. But amongst the concerns they raised were:

- + Melbourne 2030 assumed an increase of one million people in Melbourne's population, though the benefits of this were doubtful, and such an increase was beyond the capacity of existing urban infrastructure.
- + Melbourne 2030 had not been sold to the public, and so much resistance had now been stirred up that the task would now be impossible.
- + Activity centres had been chosen without any assessment of whether existing roads, parking and public transport could cope with the increased population, or any provision to upgrade these where necessary.

- + Activity centres, such as that in Smith Street, would destroy major heritage assets (in fact almost all the nineteenth century shopping strips in inner Melbourne).
- + Local councils had not been consulted about the choice of these centres, nor any attention paid to existing planning controls and policies.
- + Property owners and developers in the chosen areas would get massive unearned profits, which ought to be turned to the provision of public facilities, conservation and related works.

The report, *Inner Urban Conservation and Development*, was launched on 16 August and attracted considerable media interest, especially in *The Age* and the *Australian Financial Review*. On 8 September it bore fruit. It was reported that the Planning Minister, Mary Delahunty, was to give councils emergency powers "to help ward off monster developments proposed in the name of ... Melbourne 2030".

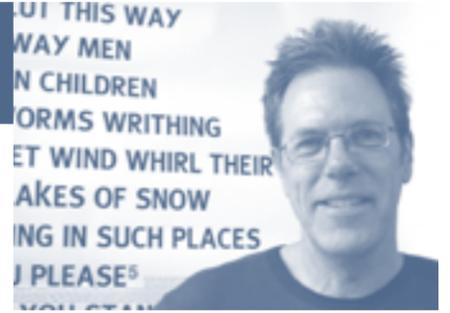
This was only the beginning, for negotiations have been begun to review the development proposal in the light of sight angles and envelope controls proposed in the report by the local architect, Steve Fargo. Other policy implications of the report are also being debated and copies of it have been ordered by a wide range of developers, planners and policy makers, including the Office of the Premier and Cabinet of South Australia.

Professor Miles Lewis currently teaches and researches in the area of architectural history and conservation. His research interests include Australian architectural and building history, prefabrication, vernacular architecture and traditional building internationally, and medium density housing policy

Image: Postcard, c.1906, Foy & Gibson, Smith Street, Collingwood. The Shirley Jones Collection of Postcards, State Library of Victoria, no H90. 160/1012.

## CREATING RESEARCH

by Professor Paul Carter



Joining the Faculty at the beginning of 2004 with a brief to promote 'creative research', I'd have to say that the publication of *Material Thinking* (Melbourne University Press, October 2004) has been timely. Subtitled 'the theory and practice of creative research', *Material Thinking* explores the difficulties artists, performers, painters and film-makers as well as designers, face when required to put the making process into words. Its context is a research culture that, ironically, devalues acts of invention, and hence disparages the knowledge that material thinking produces. Defining a discourse 'of' making, rather than one that talks retrospectively 'about' the process of artistic invention, I hope that the distinctive knowledge that creative research yields will be recognised as a powerful mode of cultural and environmental understanding.

My five-year appointment is intended as an opportunity to put these claims for creative research into practice. Although auspiced by the University of Melbourne, the artistic collaborations detailed in *Material Thinking* developed extra-murally. The object now is to extend these kinds of collaborative practices into the Faculty's research program. Earlier in 2004 I spent two months in Berlin, co-directing a stage work of mine

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(*What Is Your Name/ Wie ist dein Name*). This, a collaboration with Prompt! Berlin and the Free University, offered students a chance to be involved in making a creative work, and incorporating their creative research into these contributing to higher degrees. It's a model that can be adopted here - perhaps in *Save the Wall*, the sequel to the Berlin experience, a project that imaginatively integrates indigenous language revival and heritage landscape design, and which is planned in 2005-6 as a collaboration involving the Victorian College of the Arts and an industry partner.

The larger context of this work is a five-year research plan to explore the fate of public space in a time of decline. The imperilling of public space, like the phenomenon of global warming, is hard to prove. If it is cognate with the emergence of democratic forms of government, it may be that public space has only ever existed in curtailed and transitory forms. In public artworks like *Relay* (with Ruark Lewis, Homebush Bay), commissioned for the Sydney 2000 Olympics and *Nearamnew* (with Lab architecture studio, Federation Square), I have explored the role of public space as a place of discourse—both these artworks

**The kind of work I do is often called 'interdisciplinary', but it would be better to describe it as non-disciplinary with a strong linguistic or poetic substrate.**

feature lettering that playfully integrates 'treading and reading', in this way remaking public spaces as sites of political self-determination. In a book I published in 2002 (*Repressed Spaces, the poetics of agoraphobia*), I argued that public space (classically represented by the 'other place' of the agora) was attenuated and largely mute, and I called for a reinvigorated public space design, capable of creating what I called, rather clumsily 'other "other places"'. My book in progress, *Erotic Zones*, is intended to supply the historical and theoretical rationale of such an enterprise.

The kind of work I do is often called 'interdisciplinary', but it would be better to describe it as non-disciplinary with a strong linguistic or poetic substrate.

In any case, the exploration and sometimes reshaping of the sensuous world is always shadowed, and sometimes produced by, writing. This gives apparently heterogeneous activities a certain relationship with one another. In 2004 I published chapters on, respectively, a Melbourne Docklands public space strategy which the developers Lend Lease commissioned from me in 2003 and the

anthropology and sociology of listening—a chapter reflecting my long history as a sound installation artist and radio maker. Any overlap in the readerships of these two volumes must, I suppose, be minimal. But, despite their manifest difference of subject-matter, the cultural program of both chapters is the same. It is to enunciate the conditions of a richer, more peaceably-configured place of association and mutual understanding or at least respect. My Docklands proposal argued for a public space conceived as a multiplicity of meeting places. The other chapter called for the breaking down of the anthropological distance associated with 'hearing culture', urging instead a model of sociability based on the contract implicit in listening to the other. Both investigations thus return us to the larger question of public space and its constitution.

It is important that these ideas circulate widely. By the time this is published I will have participated in a colloquium at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Our topic is the future of art museums and, by implication, the role of collecting in the life of democracies. These closed meetings are excellent intellectual 'think tanks', and attract prestigious scholars (colleagues at this meeting will include Homi Bhabha). Next April, as a guest of the London Consortium, I will deliver lectures, and conduct seminars in the UK. I regard these occasions less as forums in which to report on work done, more as opportunities to initiate new projects, collaborations and lines of enquiry which, as they materialise, offer leading ideas for the directions of creative research within our own Faculty.

For further information, visit Paul Carter's website: [www.comfortlevels.com](http://www.comfortlevels.com). For information about *Save the Wall*, visit <http://whatisyourname.comfortlevels.com>

# WORK-LIFE CONFLICT IN THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

by Valerie Francis



Substantial changes, not only in the demographic composition of the Australian workforce, but also in the roles and expectations of men and women, have led to organisational and employee attempts to reconcile the demands of work and home. Many of the job and organisational factors found to be negatively associated with family functioning are pertinent to the work of construction professionals. A growing body of research has found that the implementation of “family-friendly” or “work-life” policies and practices can lead to greater productivity, lower turnover intent and increased organisational commitment. In addition, providing a work environment that is supportive of employees’ family roles can help to alleviate burnout and improve general health.

The impact of job demands on the family functioning and well-being of people employed in the construction industry is not well understood. This article outlines some of the findings of a study recently undertaken by Valerie Francis, a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning, and Helen Lingard from ARK Consulting, for the Construction Industry Institute, Australia.

The study provides a greater understanding of the work-life balance experiences of construction industry employees in the private and public sectors. Of particular interest was the relationship between job and family characteristics, work-life conflict and employees’ well-being, family functioning and work-related attitudes. The study also examined the experiences of employees in different life stages, for example, child-free employees, employees with children and older workers. Table 1 provides some information on the sample.

Table 1 Demographic characteristics of sample

	N	%		N	%
Age			Job description		
20 – 29 years	39	19.3	Site/project engineer	34	18.8
30 – 39 years	72	35.6	Project/construction manager	41	20.3
40 – 49 years	41	20.3	Contract administration	15	7.4
50 – 59 years	43	21.3	Foreman/supervisor	7	3.5
60 years +	7	3.5	Support services	25	12.4
			Engineering services	16	7.9
Gender			Corporate management	16	7.9
Male	178	88.1	Other	6	3.0
Female	24	11.9			
			Description of household		
Hours worked per week			Couple with dependant children	85	42.1
0 – 29 hours	4	2.0	Couple with non-dependant children	31	15.3
30 – 39 hours	26	12.9	Single parent	6	3.0
40 – 49 hours	92	45.5	Couple without children	32	15.8
50 – 59 hours	44	21.8	Single person	48	23.8
60 hours +	36	17.8			

## Major findings and recommendations:

Various aspects of job demands, including increased work hours, work responsibility (for things and people) and perceived workload, were found to increase work-family conflict and emotional exhaustion.

Efforts to reduce work-family conflict through the creation of policies and procedures supportive of work-life balance by addressing specific antecedents, such as work hours or subjective quantitative overload are

**A growing body of research has found that the implementation of “family-friendly” or “work-life” policies and practices can lead to greater productivity, lower turnover intent and increased organisational commitment.**

likely to be beneficial. In an effort to reduce overload, time management training could be provided to staff. However,

there may also be a need to reduce work loads by limiting the number of roles or tasks assigned to employees or providing more resources for work to be done.

Work-family conflict was also related to emotional exhaustion and turnover intention, suggesting that when employees perceive that their work interferes with family life they are more likely to become “burnt out” and be inclined to quit their jobs. This finding has important implications for human resource managers who might wish to reduce costly employee turnover.

The results suggest that attempts to reduce employees’ perceptions of work interference with family could yield positive benefits for both employees and organisations. Creating a supportive work environment may also have positive benefits for employees and organisations.

## Private/public sector differences:

The results highlight some important differences between the work-life experiences of employees in public and private sector construction organisations.

Private sector employees work significantly longer hours (56.5 hours) than public sector employees (43.3 hours). Private sector employees express a higher turnover intent than public sector employees and have significantly less work related flexibility than public sector employees. They also experience significantly higher levels of work interference with family life than their public sector counterpart. Compared with public sector employees, private sector employees find engaging in leisure activities with family and friends and taking part in domestic and child rearing activities significantly more difficult. It was concluded that the private sector organisation needs to address the following issues in particular:

- + focus on the reduction of employees’ work-family conflict as a means of reducing turnover intentions;
- + develop strategies to improve employees’ control over their work arrangements;

- + consider ways to reduce employees’ work hours; and
- + develop a work culture more conducive to work-life balance.

Public sector employees demonstrate higher levels of continuance commitment than private sector employees. The public sector organisation should address the issue of high continuance commitment among its employees. The following should be considered as strategies:

- + job enrichment or rotation, to ensure employees perceive that their skills and experience remain “current”;
- + support managerial autonomy and decision-making; and
- + professional development opportunities to ensure employees’ technical and managerial skills remain up-to-date and in line with practices in the private sector.

## Burnout:

The respondents to the survey, irrespective of whether they worked in the public or the private sector reported high levels of burnout. Burnout is conceptualized as a syndrome of emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, or cynicism, and reduced personal accomplishment or professional efficacy. At present it is likely that employees are under-performing and possibly suffering adverse behavioural or health effects due to the extreme levels of burnout.

In comparison with international ‘norm’ scores for burnout, the levels experienced by respondents in the sample were high (see Table 2). These figures are of concern and, given that no statistically significant differences were found between burnout among public and private sector respondents, indicate that burnout is a problem common to both sectors.

Table 2 Cross occupational comparison of mean burnout scores

	Construction Mean (SD)	Military Mean (SD)	Technologist Mean(SD)	Management Mean(SD)	Nursing Mean(SD)
Emotional exhaustion	2.76 (SD=1.5)	2.05 (SD=1.23)	2.65 (SD=1.31)	2.55(SD=1.40)	2.98(SD=1.38)
Cynicism	2.25 (SD=1.5)	1.63 (SD=1.35)	1.72 (SD=1.14)	1.32(SD=1.06)	1.80(SD=1.24)
Professional efficacy	4.29 (SD=1.0)	4.60 (SD=0.93)	4.54 (SD=1.03)	4.73(SD=0.88)	4.41(SD=0.99)

The extent to which work-family conflict mediates the relationship between job demands (work hours, responsibility and subjective workload) and the emotional exhaustion dimension of burnout were investigated. The results from the study were consistent with those of other researchers who report that job demands

affect emotional exhaustion indirectly via work-family conflict. The implication of these findings is that the reduction of work-family conflict, for example through the implementation of family-responsive management interventions, may be an effective control measure for the risk of employee burnout.

## Supportive workplace:

The results also clearly demonstrated the importance of a supportive work environment. Perceived organisational support (POS), emotional support from one’s supervisor, and emotional support from one’s co-workers all had effects on employees’ emotional exhaustion. Individuals who enjoyed these types of support had lower levels of emotional exhaustion while, where employees perceived their supervisors to be critical or resentful of their work-family issues, emotional exhaustion was high.

In addition to these main effects, the results also suggest that POS and supervisors’ and co-workers’ practical support for employees mitigates the ill-effects of work-family conflict. The ability of a supportive work environment to buffer the effect of work-family conflict on burnout suggests that interventions designed to engender an organisational culture supportive of employees’ work-life balance would be beneficial.

The results also emphasise the importance of supervisory support and highlight the importance of a flexible work culture and the provision of training for supervisors on how to deal with employees’ work-life balance issues. When supervisors were perceived to be critical or resentful of employees’ family issues, employee burnout was higher.

The final level upon which support can impact upon employee’s work-life balance is co-worker support. Where co-

workers were perceived to be supportive, burnout was lower and the relationship between work-family conflict and burnout was less pronounced. Team-building within workgroups is clearly important in such cases.

The difference between emotional and practical support should also be noted. Emotional support (i.e. listening to employees’ family issues) from both employees’ supervisors and co-workers was associated with lower levels of emotional exhaustion. However, emotional support did not moderate the relationship between work-family conflict and burnout. Only practical support had the effect of weakening the relationship between work-family conflict and burnout. In order to buffer the effect of work-family conflict, supervisors and co-workers must actively provide practical support to assist employees. This could involve measures such as re-arranging or swapping work shifts.

## Flexibility and control over work:

The role of flexibility or control that employees have over their work was examined and the extent to which this perceived control has an effect on employees’ levels of work-family conflict and/or moderates the relationship between work hours and work-family conflict was tested. When employees felt they had control it was found to have a major effect on work-family conflict but did not moderate the impact that work hours had on work-family conflict. Organisations, in particular those in the private sector, need to find ways to provide employees with a degree of control over their work arrangements. Unless such arrangements are abused, they should not significantly affect the quantity or quality of work an employee accomplishes but could considerably reduce the negative outcomes of work-family conflict, benefiting individuals, their families and organisations

## Work-life preferences:

Preferences for work-life benefits were found to vary considerably between different groups within the sample.

The desire for childcare assistance was highest among employees aged between 30 and 49 and was significantly greater among employees who were partnered with dependent children than those in other family structures. By comparison, wellness and personal development benefits were of greatest priority among the 20 to 29 year olds and progressively declined with age. Wellness and personal development benefits were most strongly preferred by single persons and partnered employees without dependent children.

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## GRADUATES REFLECT

by Noel Madigan (B Bldg 1980)

When building took its place alongside the University's traditional disciplines in 1958 no one could really be sure of how well its graduates would be received. The reality is that early construction graduates were not always readily accepted in the workforce and that the degree was in no way a "meal ticket" of any sort. What is by now a matter of record, however, is that those early graduates had an enormous impact on the construction industry and set the stage for outstanding success both in Australia and overseas. Now I am able to report a similar level of success applying to graduates of our property program.

Noel Madigan's profile which follows is the third in an ongoing series. His career has been entirely different from those of Peter Martin and Fiona Dunster which have excited much interest and comment from Alumni (see earlier editions of *Atrium*). Noel's is a good example of the sort of diverse local and international existence enjoyed by a significant proportion of Property and Construction graduates.

**Peter Williams**  
Head of Property and Construction

In 1973 I entered what was then known as the Bachelor of Building (now Property and Construction). It was during the final year that I met guest lecturer Robert Milne, who offered me my first job with E.A. Watts in 1980.

E.A. Watts was one of Victoria's largest general contractors and I was appointed to the estimating department, overseeing successful tenders through to completion. Three years of experience with Watts then led to an opportunity with the Costain Group as Senior Planning Manager. During this period I worked on a wide range of exciting tenders and projects, including the Como Project on the corner of Chapel Street and Toorak Road, South Yarra.

My experience in critical path analysis and construction techniques gave me the confidence to move to the property development sector and my first opportunity presented itself in 1987 with MacDow Properties as Construction Manager. MacDow was the perfect employer and these were boom years in the Australian property market.

Unfortunately the property industry soon entered recession, MacDow wound up, and I was left to find new employment. Finding work during a recession can certainly put one to the test, but in September 1989, I eventually accepted an exciting opportunity in Jakarta.

Indonesia was very exciting indeed. It was so different from what I had been used to in every respect. Most major projects in Jakarta at the time were on average twenty to twenty-five storeys high and built with very large labour forces but little equipment. Unfortunately safety was not high on the agenda for the workers. I recall projects losing many a young man who had dropped off the building or tried to sleep in the electrical boxes. Labour was cheap and plentiful. Unfortunately quality was scarce and the willingness to improve was even scarcer.

My first Indonesian employer was a property company developing commercial towers in Jakarta. The initial

project was fifteen storeys high and was built in record time and to a quality that exceeded even the owner's expectations. At completion, while there were other projects on the horizon, it was time to move on.

The opportunities for employment were plentiful at the time in Indonesia and I accepted a job as Development Manager with P.T. Pakuwon Jati, also a Jakarta-based developer and property owner. The company was about to embark on a mixed use project in Surabaya. I was to remain working on the project in Jakarta for the first eighteen months and then relocate to Surabaya. However, after three years of being settled in Jakarta both my wife and I realised that we wanted to stay.

I looked for alternative work before resigning from Pavulon Kati and accepted a job with P.T. Lip Poland. Their Lipo Village project was a residential development of approximately 2000-plus detached homes and an associated super mall, located about 20km outside Jakarta. Designed by the Jeered Group from Los Angeles,

it involved some 200,000m<sup>2</sup> in gross building area and was completed on budget and in a record time of 19 months including fit-out and commissioning of 217 tenancies, some of which included Wal-Mart and other big name American stores. A peak labour force of 4000 men was employed on site and as could be imagined quality remained the greatest obstacle.

In December 1997 the super mall was fully operational and it was time for me to look for the next project. An opportunity emerged in Jakarta as Senior Development Manager with P.T. Arthra Graha Tama and Property Developer. The project was known as the Sudirman Central Business District.

Land had been procured and roads and infrastructure already completed; the master plan included in excess of 30 sites to be developed over a six- to eight-year period. But then my first project within the development was about to move into design development when major recession hit Indonesia. The project was placed on hold in April 1998 due to the economic crisis and political uncertainty.

President Suharto was struggling to hold on to his power base and the city was very tense as student unrest frequently spilled out onto the streets of the capital. This culminated in large scale rioting over a three-day period in May 1998. After the most intense rioting ever witnessed in Jakarta, and news that the mobs would destroy anything left standing we (by this time we had started a family) decided to flee to Bali. Welcomed in Bali by my former Indonesian secretary we witnessed history in the making as Suharto stepped down and a calm swept over Jakarta. We were then able to return to the capital and I clearly remember the tanks on the streets and burnt buildings. Even the super mall had been the scene of intense looting and almost destroyed by the fire. The city was in chaos, the national economy had ground to a halt with the rupiah near on worthless, and all building work was of course at a standstill.

The boom times in Indonesia were over and it was time yet again to move on. Having made a decision to remain expatriate, where to go next was the position. Asia was out of contention as all the Asian economies were in crisis. Such did not apply to the Middle East however, with Dubai the most popular destination amongst the expatriate community in Jakarta. So, in June 1998, I boarded a plane to the United Arab Emirates and within two weeks accepted a job with Emaar Properties. The Dubai/Indonesia contrast could not have been more startling. The greenness of the tropical rainforests was now replaced with the treeless sand deserts of the Emirates.

We had had a six month wet season in Jakarta where, yes, it rained just about every day; in the Emirates we saw rain three times in two years. Our weekends were on Thursdays and Fridays which took some adjusting to, especially when conducting business with the outside world. And then there was the heat. From May until September, the temperatures hovered between 45 and 50 degrees every day. The nights stayed around 40 degrees and the humidity meant that any outdoor venture had you sweating profusely within seconds.

Emaar Properties was the vision of the Crown Prince of Dubai, his Excellency, Sheikh Mohammed. The company was listed publicly and owned solely by Emirate nationals. Emaar Properties was enormously successful with its portfolio of projects and was by far the largest developer in Dubai. Projects included West Side Marina and Emirates Lakes, both valued in the billion dollar range. The time at Emaar

was rewarding but frustrating, as the political situation within the company was horrendous. While we enjoyed Dubai, the uncertainty was unsettling and in May 2000 I decided to take up an opportunity on the small island of Bahrain, in the Persian Gulf just off the coast of Saudi Arabia. I accepted a position with a medium sized architectural practice and property developer as Business Development Manager.

Like Dubai, the island of Bahrain was a fascinating place in which to live and work. The glitz and wealth were not present but the smaller expatriate community in Bahrain made us feel most welcome and we quickly settled into a more gentle life. The first year passed quickly and the prospects of an extended stay in Bahrain looked very favourable indeed. Unfortunately that was not to be.

In July 2001, after a routine mammogram during a family visit to Melbourne, my wife was diagnosed with breast cancer. Our world was turned upside down and quick decisions had to be made. My wife was determined that life should remain as normal as possible for the family and chose to stay in Australia for treatment while the children and I headed back home to Bahrain and the plan was to continue the expat life. If our world was turned upside down by this event, the whole world was rocked, only a few months later, by the horror of September 11. Within months the work in Bahrain dried up and another change of country was eminent. With my wife still in Australia and employment possibilities few and far between, the logical step was to return to Australia at least until she was well again and, in late December 2001, I returned to Melbourne with our children. Fortunately for me, the Australian property industry was experiencing a prolonged boom and work opportunities were plentiful at home in Melbourne. Within weeks of returning to Australia I had accepted a position as General Manager of Development with the MAB Corporation. The position allowed me to quickly reacquaint myself with the local industry through MAB's major projects in the Melbourne Docklands. In 2003 I accepted the position of Development Manager for Divine Limited to deliver the Victoria Point Development in the Docklands.

Now we are settled back in Melbourne, I have taken the opportunity to embark on my own personal building project. After much consideration and consultation the decision to build a new home rather than renovate the old was made. The last six months have seen me on site every weekend getting down and dirty, dawn until dusk, building what I know will be a fine French provincial-style home. It will be our first "real" home in 14 years and, yes, it will be home for at least a year or two. If you ask my wife, Indonesia is calling and on cold Melbourne nights, I have to say that sometimes I can hear it too.

# BMB AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Dr Darko Radovic discusses the ongoing collaborative BMB project.



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In last issue of *Atrium* I introduced BMB, a trilateral, collaborative teaching, design-research and research project organised and conducted by l'Ecole d'Architecture et de Paysage de Bordeaux, the Faculty of Architecture, Kasetsart University and our Faculty. Since then, the first two workshops have been held. The first workshop was organised by Kasetsart University in October 2003, and the second in March 2004 was run at the University of Melbourne.

The 2003 workshop focused on the future of Bangkok's fragile coastal area. An understanding of the complexity of Bangkok, the place where Bangkok meets the sea, was necessary for the development of locally grounded and culturally relevant solutions. Kasetsart

**The diverse cultural and disciplinary backgrounds of the workshop participants facilitated rich debates.**

University organised a superb two weeks of fieldwork, with a number

of comprehensive briefing sessions. The diverse cultural and disciplinary backgrounds of the workshop participants facilitated rich debates. Working in collaboration with the local experts helped participants develop an exciting blend of local and global quality.

In 2004 our Faculty organised the workshop, providing an opportunity to test our teaching methods within a unique international environment, and to gain valuable feedback, both from experienced overseas academics and their students. We wanted to promote the regular features of our Master of Urban Design and Master of Landscape Architecture program, which include: a thorough pre-workshop briefing; active participation of non-academic partners/

practitioners in the design process; the planned disciplinary and cultural mix of students; a workshop atmosphere; a 'sleeves up' design environment with involvement of staff and guest designers; regular working pin-up sessions; a continuous peer-review process; and an emphasis on the production of ideas, on both process and product—all that in an atmosphere of careful informality.

The workshop was conducted from 15 to 26 March and focused on the Melbourne waterfront, in particular the reach of the Yarra River from Port Philip Bay upstream to the Westgate Bridge. The workshop was organised with the generous support and active participation of the key urbanists from the City of Melbourne (Mr Rob Adams), City of Port Phillip (Jim Holdsworth, David Brand) and VicUrban (Mark Allan).

It is difficult to explain the richness of these workshops. This is why I have chosen to use photo-reportage. I believe that the photos and brief descriptions can communicate at least some of the energy and the excitement generated by the BMB@MU.

Dr Darko Radovic's research interests include ecological sustainability for urban and architectural design, concepts of place and urbanity, regulation of urban processes and Lefebvrian analysis of space. He is currently working on a number of research projects including Architecture and Settlement Patterns of Australian Deserts; Sustainable Office Building; Patterns of Destruction and Reconstruction of Cities in Former Yugoslavia, and Urban and Architectural Integration of Active Solar Components. He has also directed part of his research towards problems of internationalisation in the design professions and joined the University's Centre for Studies of Higher Education (CSHE) in their research project 'Navigating Other Cultures'.

Images:

1. BMB participants at St Kilda Town Hall
2. BMB organising team
3. Fieldwork—on the boat
4. Initial presentations
5. David Brand and Jim Holdsworth at final presentations



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# SEACHANGE COMPROMISING GREAT OCEAN ROAD LIFESTYLE



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A rising wave of city dwellers moving to Victoria's coastal towns for a 'sea change' may be compromising the very quality-of-life they seek, according to a study by Dr Ray Green.

The study on perceptions of town character finds that the population influx is having a significant detrimental impact on the environs of the Great Ocean Road, affecting every town along its 260 panoramic kilometres.

Local communities are experiencing an environmental and character shift that is creating discontent and friction between individuals, developers, councils and the Victorian Government.

New and old residents of towns such as Torquay, Anglesea, Airey's Inlet, Lorne and Apollo Bay feel they are losing their town's individual character to 'progress'. Establishing a set of ground rules to measure perceptions of local character is the focus of Dr Green's research project.

Funded by an Australian Research Council Discovery Grant (2003–2005), Dr Green's research involves both quantitative and qualitative studies of the perceptions of local residents in coastal communities, aimed at identifying key factors that define their distinctive town characters.

Dr Green sees the study's findings informing local planning decisions with the hope that some disasters of the past will not be repeated.

"The removal of Lorne's Senior Citizen's bowling green from the foreshore to make way for a large city-style asphalt car park for tourists, is a classic example of redevelopment showing disregard for both community and town character," he says.

Dr Green has addressed many community meetings along the Great Ocean Road to disseminate the results of

his research and gauge the concerns of residents and other interested parties.

"Outside studies of the assessment of character are notoriously at odds with what local people think," he says. "People familiar with their local environment possess a high degree of understanding about their towns and individual neighbourhoods. They are the experts when it comes to assessing town character".

**Local communities are experiencing an environmental and character shift that is creating discontent and friction between individuals, developers, councils and the Victorian Government.**

"I discovered that in every town common values have emerged. Most people prefer

natural features and views of natural features such as rivers, beaches, the ocean, hills, forest and grasslands and nature reserves. They prefer buildings to be smaller rather than larger and screened from the road by indigenous foliage.

"Historic buildings, such as the Airey's Inlet Lighthouse, the Lorne Pier, and older houses in each town are considered a valuable part of the heritage and should be conserved as an integral part of town character. Understandably at the bottom of the list are new, large, boxy houses unscreened by vegetation. Generally, vegetation rates highly, but exotic species typically rate low."

Dr Green was impressed by a sophisticated local knowledge of plants and animals and the passion that local people feel for conserving the character of their towns and individual neighbourhoods.

"Many towns have an action group whose job is to monitor undesirable

development proposals and, when necessary, fight against inappropriate projects," he says.

"Such community action groups seem to reflect a loss of faith in local councils and government planners to effectively conserve features thought to be instrumental in conveying town and neighbourhood characters."

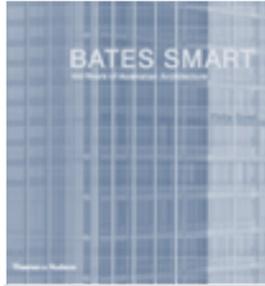
Dr Green feels local and state government can benefit by being aware of what people feel constitutes the character of their towns when deliberating on development proposals that could have a negative impact on environmental integrity and heritage values.

Dr Ray Green is the Head of the Faculty's Landscape Architecture program. His research interests include the perceptual consequences of tourism development in small town communities, community participation in environmental planning and the development of methods for modelling perceived landscape and urban character. One of his primary concerns is using his research findings to inform design actions that will be sensitive to local ecological and cultural conditions.

Images

1. Coastal cliffs at Aireys Inlet integral to town character.
2. The Cumberland Hotel at Lorne, considered to be 'inappropriate development' by local residents.
3. Agricultural land in Apollo Bay being transformed by rapidly increasing residential development.
4. Agricultural landscapes in Apollo Bay identified as key to conveying town character.

## BOOKS



### Bates Smart: 150 Years of Australian Architecture

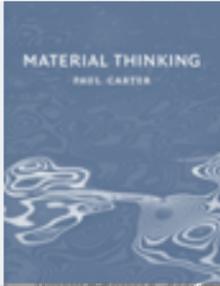
Bates Smart is one of Australia's and the world's oldest continually operating architectural firms. *Bates Smart: 150 years of Australian Architecture* details their pioneering vision, unique journey and contribution to Australian Architecture over the past 150 years.

Professor Philip Goad, editor and major contributor to the book, says, "It took three years to research, write and source rare images and sketches to present an impartial view, which shows how a Melbourne group of architects gave shape to their city and in effect to the rest of the country. In Australia, the contribution of Bates Smart over 150 years is significant and in effect chronicles a nation's architectural history, realised through the works of a single architectural practice".

The scope of this book is ambitious. The sheer amount of work produced by the firm has meant that not all buildings are covered in detail. However it chronicles the changing architectural styles through the ages from Corinthian (State Library of Victoria) to Romanesque (Independent Church, Collins Street) and Roman Revival (The Melbourne Town Hall) and showcases icons such as Rippon Lea.

The book includes over 500 colour photographs and drawings, detailing historic to contemporary buildings. Essays by Philip Goad, George Tibbits, Professor Miles Lewis and Dr Julie Willis outline the journey and depict the fortunes of each decade, recording the directors' visions, dating back to Joseph Reed in 1853.

*Bates Smart: 150 years of Australian Architecture* is published by Thames & Hudson Australia (2004). ISBN 0 500 50014 2



### Material Thinking

*Material Thinking* is a ground-breaking book for artists, and for those who study or teach in the arts.

Author and artist Paul Carter provides an intimate, first-hand account of how ideas are turned into works, and how the material thinking these artworks embody produces new understanding about ourselves, our histories and the culture we inhabit.

Taking as his subject several artistic collaborations which resulted in performances, exhibitions or videos, Carter explores how each unfolded. In the course of this analysis he constructs a philosophy of how the practice and theory of making art are interconnected, a philosophy powerful enough to provide an intellectual underpinning for this new, and still developing, field of creative research.

Professor Paul Carter is a Professorial Research Fellow in the Faculty. For more information on his research and art practice, please see his article on page 9.

*Material Thinking* is published by Melbourne University Press (2004). ISBN 0 522 85124 X



### Reverse Mortgages

Australia's high-priced housing market is warming to the concept of reverse mortgaging and is in a prime position to embrace it, according to University of Melbourne property expert Dr Richard Reed. Dr Reed outlines his findings in *Reverse Mortgages*.

Reverse mortgages allow homeowners to access the equity they have built up in their homes. Repayment is typically made from the sale of the house or when heirs use other assets to repay the debt.

*Reverse Mortgages* explores the broad implications for older homeowners, those currently in the workforce and the overall market with the wider availability of reverse mortgaging in Australia.

The concept of reverse mortgaging was created in the USA to allow elderly homeowners access to their home equity to pay increasing living expenses or emergency bills without having to sell their homes.

Dr Reed says reverse mortgages appear to offer benefits to a limited number of elderly households, especially those that are "asset rich but cash poor".

*Reverse Mortgages* is published by Wrightbooks (2003), an imprint of John Wiley & Sons, Brisbane, and is widely available through bookstores. ISBN 0 731 40074 7

## BOOKS



### TV Houses

"A penetrating and beautifully researched excursion into the early days of Australian TV. We know that television ruins the eyesight and the morals of the young, but how may of us realize how much it changed the configuration of the average home? Where was the best vantage point for watching? And what should one eat while doing so? And odder still, what should one wear? TV pyjamas perhaps? What was to be done with the necessary but space-stealing fireplace, when the set became the new family hearth? In addition to the changes wrought in the physical environment, Dr Grove also traces the influence of the 'idiot box' on the national imagination, with the importance of stars, concepts, and whole shows from the US and Britain. It is hard to resist the conclusion that the family inside the Australian home was altered just as dramatically as the house itself by the advent of the most important household appliance of the 20<sup>th</sup> century."

Professor Karal Ann Marling, Department of Art History, The University of Minnesota USA.

Dr Derham Groves' research interests include Chinese temples in Australia, the influence of popular culture on architecture and vice versa, and everyday architecture.

*TV Houses* is published by Black Jack Press, Carlton North (2004). ISBN 0 958 0785 5 6

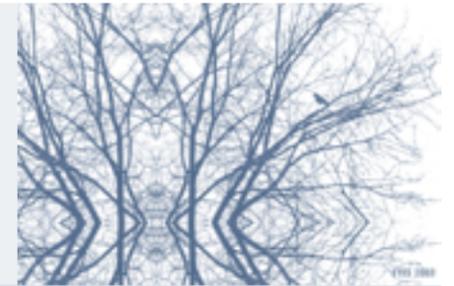


### Chinese Spatial Strategies

How was Beijing conceived, designed and constructed, as a political architecture? How did the Chinese design a space, at the scale of a building, a city and a large civil-engineering project? Were the constructions of the Great Wall, the Grand Canal, the city of Beijing and the Imperial Palace interrelated? Does that reveal a layout of power relations, a formalistic aesthetic or an existential worldview? By examining the buildings of Imperial Beijing (1420-1911) this book seeks to answer these questions, and explore a generic approach to spatial disposition in the Chinese tradition.

Drawing upon recent work in social theory, Dr Jianfei Zhu provides a spatial and political analysis of the Forbidden City, and a realistic, analytical and critical account of Imperial Beijing. This book transcends the convention of formal descriptions of Chinese buildings and cities and will appeal to all those with an interest in Chinese architecture from a broad perspective.

*Chinese Spatial Strategies: Imperial Beijing 1420-1911* is published by RoutledgeCurzon, London and New York (2004). ISBN 0 415 31883 1



### EYES 2003

The ninth edition of EYES was launched in April. EYES publishes the best design work from the annual EYES (Everyone's Year End Show) exhibition. As its name suggests this exhibition showcases work from all the architecture, landscape architecture and urban design students of the Faculty.

EYES reveals the breadth of design projects undertaken in the Faculty. It also provides an insight into the increasing complexity and professional relevance of these projects as students progress through their courses.

Readers of EYES will be inspired, given an insight into current pedagogical methods as well as have an opportunity to identify emerging talent.

*EYES 2003*, now in full colour, can be purchased from the General Office of the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning for \$25

## BOOKS

MANNING CLARK HOUSE  
REFLECTIONS



### Manning Clark House Reflections

An absorbing collaboration between an artist, an architect and an historian has resulted in a new publication on Manning Clark House—a beautiful full-coloured book about the house and the life of its inhabitants over many decades.

Each of the three contributors has spent many hours, and in the case of historian Roslyn Russell many years, at the house and in the gardens.

Photographer Trevor Creighton shared the life of the place and spent several nights at MCH to take photographs at all times of day that go well beyond mere recordings of the physical structures.

Peter Freeman (BArch 1965) has written about the house and the family's life in it through the eyes of a practised heritage architect, and has contributed a set of fine drawings that complement the book's text and photographs.

Historian Roslyn Russell was for twelve years Manning and then Dymphna Clark's research assistant. Reporting to the house daily, she grew to know well the large family and the patterns of their lives.

*Manning Clark House Reflections* is available from Manning Clark House, 11 Tasmania Circle, Forrester ACT 2603.

LANDSCAPE AND BUILDING  
DESIGN FOR BUSHFIRE AREAS



### Landscape and Building Design for Bushfire Areas

Many factors affect the chances of a building surviving a bushfire. If you are designing landscape and buildings in bushfire areas you need to be aware of these factors so that the chances of losses to life and property can be minimised.

This new design handbook, by the Faculty's Lisle Rudolph and CSIRO's Dr G. Caird Ramsay, integrates the latest scientific knowledge about buildings and bushfires with a flexible design approach.

First, it gives a clear description of the environment in which bushfires occur, how a fire attacks, and how buildings are ignited and destroyed. Second, it sets out a practical design approach for the application established knowledge to the design of buildings and their immediate surroundings. It presents a range of options for designing the various elements of both landscapes and buildings in bushfire-prone areas.

The book encourages design for bushfire to be included as a normal part of designing in bushfire-prone areas, rather than as an undesirable add-on. It will assist planning and building regulatory authorities to improve and administer regulatory requirements and guidelines.

*Landscape and Building Design for Bushfire Areas* is published by CSIRO publishing, Collingwood (2003) and is widely available through bookstores.



### Cool: The 60s Brisbane House

*Cool: The 60s Brisbane House* is the catalogue of a recent QUT Art Museum exhibition, co-edited by Tracey Avery (current PhD candidate) with Peta Dennis and Paula Whitman. Working as a freelance curator, Tracey secured Major Grants funding from Arts Queensland in 2003, enabling the project to enlist design and conservation professionals.

The work is based on interviews with 11 architects (Graham Bligh, John Dalton, Dr Graham du Gruchy, Robin Gibson, Peter Heathwood, Maurice Hurst, Nevil Miller, Geoffrey Pie, David Roessler, Stephen Trotter and Don Winsen), first undertaken by Brisbane heritage architect, Peta Dennis for her 1999 QUT BArch dissertation. Peta was subsequently awarded the National Trust of Queensland's prize for the best heritage-based dissertation.

The catalogue and exhibition use a selection of published and unpublished work to examine a range of influences on Brisbane houses of the period, including architectural training, climate, and changes in technology and lifestyle.

During the preparation for the exhibition and catalogue, many of the architects, now aged in their 70s, brought out previously unseen sketch plans, blue-prints, drawings, all rendered by hand from their student and practice days. The many extracts from Peta's interviews provide greater insight into the architects' ideas and influences than can generally be gleaned from their published work.

The catalogue contains essays by Peta Dennis, Jennifer Taylor and Philip Goad and was designed by noted stage and graphic designer, Bill Haycock.

*Cool: The 60s Brisbane House* is published by the School of Design and Built Environment, QUT, Brisbane (2004). ISBN: 1 74107 066 X. Copies can be purchased in Melbourne from Architext bookstore or from Tracey Avery (Tel: +61 3 8344 7053).

## SAFER SPACES: 3 PROJECTS

by Dr Carolyn Whitzman



My current research lies at the intersection of urban planning, public health promotion, and violence prevention. There has been a great deal written about the impacts of violence and fear of violence on cities: from the decline in use and provision of public space, to the 'bubble wrap' generation of children whose parents are afraid to let them roam around freely in the face of 'stranger danger', to increasing anti-Muslim racism in the wake of urban terrorism. As serious as these problems are, I am more interested in the obverse of this problem, the creation of 'safer spaces' within communities. How do people access help and support in the face of complex violence issues they may face? How do people, individually and collectively, work to make themselves and their communities safer? And how can urban policy, particularly planning policy, work to support these efforts?

Since arriving at the University of Melbourne with my newly minted PhD in July 2003, I have worked on developing three related research projects that seek to answer these questions. First, in conjunction with the University of Melbourne's new Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Well-Being, VicHealth, Crime Prevention

**I hope to further investigate how 'safe space' is developed, in both physical and discursive forms, by individuals and organizations.**

Victoria, and other partners, I am putting together an ARC Linkage Grant application that will look at violence prevention services for new arrival women in three outer suburbs. My focus is on services by and for women recently arrived from the Horn of Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia, who may be escaping situations of violence in their home countries, as well as encountering racism and difficulty in accessing mainstream services in Australia. My spatial focus comes from the recognition

that whereas the central city was once the first place of settlement for new migrants and refugee claimants, it is now the outer suburbs which are facing the service challenges associated with migration. Preliminary research with local governments and service providers in outer suburbs of both Melbourne and Toronto, Canada, has taken place over the past several months, supported by a Faculty Research and Publication Scheme grant. In this preliminary research, I am discovering what sorts of services presently exist in these outer suburbs, how they are funded, and how both agencies and funders identify violence prevention issues and 'good practice'. As the research progresses, I hope to further investigate how 'safe space' is developed, in both physical and discursive forms, by individuals and organizations. An article for *Australian Planner* has been written on the project, with another more theoretical article being developed for *Planning Research and Practice*.

At the international level, I am continuing my work with a group of academics and community activists who have formed an organization called Women and Cities International. Over the past two years, we have organized a conference on Women and Community Safety in Montreal, which attracted over 200 participants from 30 countries; a competition on good practices that uncovered 22 outstanding projects in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas; and have developed a website that allowed organizations from around the world to share information in three languages (English, French, and Spanish). In November, I spoke at the Second International Conference on Women and Community Safety, in Bogota, Colombia. I have just completed a short chapter on the project for an annual publication called *Human Rights and the City*, produced by the University of Valladolid in Spain, and

my co-authored report on the 'lessons from good practices' will be published on-line by the end of 2004. Our work has been supported by the Canadian federal government (National Crime Prevention Council and Status of Women), the UNCHS Urban Management Programme, and the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime.

The final project is in conjunction with Latrobe University's School of Public Health. We have applied for funds from the Department of Human Services to look at how the 2002 World Health Organization Report on Violence and Health might be conceptualized at the local level. In partnership with a Victorian municipality, we will be identifying and analysing existing data on violence in its broadest sense, including self-directed violence, child abuse, partner abuse, elder abuse, acquaintance and stranger violence, and collective social, economic, and political violence. We will be working with stakeholders, including local government planners, health promotion and family violence workers, and police, to develop a comprehensive and integrated approach to preventing violence in the community, including how Municipal Public Health Plans, Municipal Strategic Plans and other local government tools can facilitate interventions. We will also be applying for a National Medical and Health Research Council grant to further develop this intervention model.

Dr Carolyn Whitzman's current research interests include the development of safe spaces for recent immigrants and refugees, international linkages between women and local governance issues, and social planning for urban diversity in outer suburbs. She is currently supervising research students undertaking the following projects: drug use prevention in high-rise public housing; how local government can help retain and expand the stock of single room occupancy housing for low-income people vulnerable to homelessness; and community opposition to wind farms.

## THE HENRY AND RACHEL ACKMAN AND FRITZ JANEBA SCHOLARSHIPS

by Julie Firkin (BArch 1997)

I was awarded the Henry and Rachel Ackman and the Fritz Janeba Scholarships in 2002 to study at Harvard University's Design School in the Masters degree program. I moved to Boston in September 2002, and shared an apartment in a lively student neighbourhood, Cambridge, an inner suburb of Boston and home to Harvard's campus. The post-professional Masters degree program is aimed at people who have already practiced as architects, and the people I studied with had worked all over the world. I was in a relatively small class of twenty-eight, which meant that, although Harvard is a large ivy-league university, there was familiarity, friendship and support between us.

The degree was composed of design studios and a broad range of course-work options in the fields of architecture, urban design, planning, and landscape architecture. We were also permitted to take classes at the other Harvard graduate schools and the neighbouring MIT. There was a lottery system for the most sought-after design studios and classes. I was lucky enough to win opportunities to travel in America and overseas.

I was sponsored to travel to the Galapagos Islands to produce design studies for a proposed marine biology research station. The focus of this design exercise was on environmental sustainability and on having a low impact on the natural ecology, as the station is to be located in a national park. I was also funded to travel to Korea to investigate the urban re-development of central Seoul. Up until recently, the Cheonggyecheon stream which runs through the heart of the old city has been covered with a highway and treated as a sewer. The Korean government is planning to restore this stream and redevelop the surrounding area. The aim of our project was to design alternatives to typical contemporary western riverfront redevelopments which would instead maintain a sense of place. From Korea, I traveled to Shanghai, China, where I met with eight other students

and the Dean of the Design School, fellow University of Melbourne graduate, Peter Rowe. We had been invited by the government to investigate Pudong New Area and to gauge how successful this major urban development has been in attracting residents from across the river in Shanghai.

I was selected to curate an exhibition of student works in *Weaving* at the Sheldon Art Galleries in Saint Louis, Missouri. *Weaving* was a seminar course I attended run by Toshiko Mori, the Chair of the Architecture Department at Harvard, in which we analysed material fabrication, looking at its history and technical innovations, and created models which exploited material properties of pliancy, softness, stiffness and strength to create structures that can be robust, inhabitable, and adaptive.

Not only did I have these travel opportunities, but I had the opportunity to meet and work with a number of prominent international architects. I participated in a design studio instructed by Herzog and de Meuron and am now working at their firm in Switzerland. I would like to thank the University of Melbourne for these scholarships, which have made it possible for me to graduate with distinction from the Master in Architecture degree program at Harvard. The experience has inspired me to be involved in research and to teach in the future, and has opened up opportunities for me in practicing architecture.

For information on postgraduate scholarships, including the Henry and Rachel Ackman and the Fritz Janeba Scholarships please visit <http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/Research/Degrees/Scholarships.html>

Applications for the 2005 Fritz Janeba Scholarship, which was worth \$21,000 in 2004, close on 1 March 2005.

## THE 1970S

Designing Futures: Community and Technology in Architecture and Urban Design

Associate Professor Paul Walker and Dr Sandra Kaji-O'Grady convened a symposium on the subject of Community and Technology in Architecture and Urban Design in the 1970s. The symposium took place in the Faculty in September 2004.

The symposium focussed on the configuration of technology and community in built and unbuilt proposals for new cities and architectures in the 1970s. The testing and invention in the architectural medium of new forms of community through the application, invention or rejection of technologies was central to the symposium's concerns.

Reinhold Martin from the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University, New York and an editor of the journal *Grey Room* opened the symposium and led the discussions. The symposium will result in a book of diverse essays on key projects, themes and people including: the impact of Boeing 747s on architecture; Paolo Soleri's Arcosanti and Arcology principles; underwater and floating cities; Frei Otto and Kenzo Tange's arctic project, the Archigram group; and corporate, special interest and sporting communities.

Associate Professor Paul Walker's research interests include 19th and 20th century architectural theory, post-colonial approaches to architecture and landscape, and architectural discourse in colonial and post-colonial contexts.

Dr Sandra Kaji-O'Grady's research interests include contemporary architectural theory, art and architecture after 1960, the transfer of techniques and technologies from other fields to architecture, contemporary Japanese architecture, conceptual art, and futures.



Bearing Gifts for Gregory Burgess: continued from page 4

## EMPLOYING ABP GRADUATES

## NEWS

not help us reflect on our subject's bearing. The qualities displayed by Greg's work embody a stance, at once moral, emotional and intellectual. They reflect his tallness in every sense, his grace, his passion and poise. But it would be a mistake to take any of this for granted. The seemingly effortless harmonisation of potentially turbulent energies, which Greg's buildings so magnificently stage, implies an equally tumultuous psychic journey, one that has had repeatedly to balance a wilful, even Expressionist temptation to remake nature with an equally powerful impulse to quietism, a sense of being called to one's place, if we can but endure unknowing.

To draw the shape of the place where these energies can be mutually transformed is, and continues to be, his genius.

This is an abridged version of a speech presented on the occasion of Gregory Burgess's AS Hook Memorial Address and the presentation of the RAlA Gold Medal, Friday, 16 July 2004 in the Prince Philip Theatre, The University of Melbourne. For information on Professor Paul Carter's research activities, see his article on page 9.

### Work-Life Conflict in the Australian Construction Industry: continued from page 11

The results suggest that no single work-life balance solution is applicable to all employees and we recommend that workforce profiling, by business unit or organisational sub-unit, might be useful in identifying the most beneficial and highly valued initiatives to implement.

Care should also be taken to consider strategies that may not be a priority for existing employees but which might be implemented in order to attract groups of employees who are not currently well represented and improve workforce diversity.

Research work in this area is continuing and any organisations or individuals wishing to be part of this should contact Valerie Francis on +61 3 8344 8762 or email [v.francis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:v.francis@unimelb.edu.au)

If you are looking for staff, the Faculty can help you.

Each year graduates from the Bachelor of Planning and Design (Architecture) and the Bachelor of Planning and Design (Property and Construction) are looking for employment opportunities. These students are required to complete at least 26 weeks of full-time industry experience before returning to the Faculty to complete their professional degrees. Many of you will have undertaken this experience and recognise the benefits to both the student and the work place.

Likewise, graduating students in Urban Planning, Landscape Architecture, Architecture and Property and Construction are seeking longer term opportunities in their respective fields.

We can advertise any vacancies directly to these students via noticeboards in our buildings and direct email.

If you have a vacancy please send details of the position and your company, including contact details and closing dates, to [abp-info@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:abp-info@unimelb.edu.au)

You should also provide details to the University's Careers and Employment Unit via their Careers Online system at <http://careersonline.acs.unimelb.edu.au/cae/employerscae/>

### New Staff

**Rob Adams**, City of Melbourne and **Professor Gordon Clark**, University of Oxford were recently appointed as Honorary Professorial staff.

**Dr Lynne Armitage** commenced work in the Property and Construction program in July 2004. Dr Armitage is a property expert who has held various academic positions at Hawkesbury Agricultural College (now University of Western Sydney), QUT and the Papua New Guinea University of Technology in Lae.

**Dr Henanto Dolio** will join the Property and Construction program in 2005.

**Neil Robinson** commenced work as the new general manager in August, following the resignation of Marian Costelloe, who took up a position with Monash University's Victorian College of Pharmacy. Neil has for the past several years been Manager of Strategic Development and Change in the University's Faculty of Education. Prior to this, Neil held a senior management role at Shelter, the largest housing charity in Europe, and also served for eight years on one of the largest local authorities in England where he had responsibility for planning and transportation.

**Dr Sidh Sightingha** joins the Landscape Architecture program in 2005.

**Sarah Wilkinson** will be joining the Property and Construction program as a Lecturer in Construction Technology from mid-2005.

### Visitors

**Professor Mike Batty**, Professor of Spatial Analysis and Planning at University College, London, visited the Faculty from January to March 2004. Professor Batty, whose visit was hosted by **Associate Professor Bharat Dave**, is one of the best known innovators in the field of geographical information systems and modelling. He also directs the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA) which is one of the world's leading GIS research and modelling laboratories.

**Dr Gabriella Olshammar**, Goteborg University, Institute of Conservation, Sweden, has been a visitor to the Faculty since February 2004, departing late December 2004. Dr Olshammar is a postdoctoral visiting researcher with a

News continued over page

## NEWS

fellowship from the Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning, and is being hosted by **Professor Kim Dovey** and **Dr Darko Radovic**.

**Associate Professor Steve Harfield**, University of Technology, Sydney, was a visitor of the Faculty during February, March, May and June of 2004 and was hosted by **Professor Philip Goad**.

**Associate Professor Han Sun Sheng**, Department of Real Estate, School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore was awarded an Edward Clarence Dyason *Universitas21* Fellowship to join the Faculty from March 2004 to March 2005. He is being hosted by **Professor Kevin O'Connor**.

**Dr Ranjith Dayaratne** from the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering, University of Bahrain recently arrived as an academic visitor of the Faculty from October 2004 to June 2005. Dr Dayaratne is undertaking a research project on 'Reconstructing culture and place: the Sri Lankan society and space in Melbourne'. Academic hosts during his visit are **Dr Anoma Pieris** and **Professor Kim Dovey**.

**Dr Zhen (George) Chen** from the Institute of Technology and Engineering, Massey University, New Zealand arrives as an academic visitor February 2005 for a 12-month visit jointly hosted with the Faculty of Engineering. Dr Chen is undertaking several projects about sustainable buildings and will be working with Dr Lu Aye and Associate Professor John Wilson from Civil and Environmental Engineering, and **Dr Scott Drake** and **Clare Newton** from this faculty.

### Staff

**Dr Helen Lingard**, Senior Lecturer in Property and Construction, resigned from her position in the Faculty in November 2003 to pursue other opportunities.

**Peter Ashford**, Senior Lecturer in Property and Construction, was awarded one of three University of Melbourne *Universitas21* fellowships. The fellowship recognizes excellence in teaching and provided for an eight-week program consulting with and teaching at *Universitas21* Universities overseas.

**Ian Bishop**, long a member of ABP's academic staff jointly with Geomatic Engineering, was promoted to Professor in July 2003. Ian commenced full-time work with a new Cooperative Research Centre in the Faculty of Engineering in 2004.

**Dr Paul Mees**, **Dr Anthony Mills** and **Dr Jianfei Zhu** were promoted to Senior Lecturer in September 2003.

**Professor Catherin Bull's** book, *New Conversations with an Old Landscape* (IMAGES publishing group, 2003), was awarded the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects highest accolade, the 2004 National Award. The book also won the Communications Award of Merit in the 2004 American Society of Landscape Architects Awards. The jury declared the book a "beautifully presented assemblage showing the great diversity of works of landscape architecture. High quality photography and clear text reveal the beauty and diversity of the natural and man-made landscape of Australia. . . Presented for a wide audience. . . Easy to read in-depth or casually browse."

**Hamish Hill** and **Alex Selenitsch** exhibited furniture pieces with the Victorian Woodworkers Association as a part of the *Working With Wood* show at the Exhibition Centre in October 2003. All the work in the show was made from pallets used by IveCo to import truck engines from the USA.

**Professor Paul Carter** was awarded the Woodward Medal for research in the humanities and social sciences in October 2003. Named for Sir Edward Woodward, former Chancellor of the University, and Lady Woodward, this medal is awarded each year to one of the University's academic staff members for outstanding performance and distinction in research over the previous three years.

**Andrew Hutson** stepped down from the role of Head of Program, Architecture in December 2003, after three years of exemplary service. While Andrew continues to teach and research as before, **Professor Philip Goad** has taken up the Head of Program role, with **Dr Scott Drake** coordinating the Bachelor of Planning and Design (Architecture) and **Dr Sandra Kaji-O'Grady** coordinating the Bachelor of Architecture.

**Dr Darko Radovic** received first prize at the Salon of Urbanism, Yugoslavia in the research category and also received a research fellowship at the Osaka City University in 2003/4.

**Dr Derham Groves** curated an exhibition of Sherlock Holmes paraphernalia, *In the Privacy of Their Own Holmes*, at the Baillieu Library in May 2004. He also participated in the *Community Collections* exhibition at Melbourne Museum, exhibiting his collection of 300 clip-on bow ties.

**Alex Selenitsch's** artwork featured in *HERESY, The Secret Language of Materials*, a group show at Craft Victoria in June 2004. Another group show he had work in, *SCRIPT*, was installed at the Maquarie University Gallery, in Northern Sydney at the same time. To view some of Alex's

work, visit <http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/staffpages/selenitsch>.

**Valerie Francis** and **Dr Richard Reed** were promoted to Senior Lecturer in September 2004.

The Semester 1, 2004 Faculty Teaching Award has been jointly awarded to **Professor Kim Dovey** and **Associate Professor Paul Walker** for their excellent teaching contributions to the Faculty. The 2003 Award went to **Professor Kevin O'Connor**.

**Tony Mussen** was awarded a Life Fellowship at the RAlA Life Fellows and Past Presidents luncheon on Tuesday 26 October 2004. This prestigious award recognizes Tony's work as a senior counsellor providing expert advice to RAlA members, for his work as an educator and Head of Architecture and for his contribution as an elected RAlA Victorian Chapter Council Member.

### Research

ABP hosted the second AASA (Association of Architecture Schools of Australasia) conference in September, 2003.

Staff of the Faculty have been successful in the following 2004 ARC Discovery-Project Grant applications:

+ **Associate Professor Nick Low** with Professor B Gleeson and Ms CA Curtis were awarded a grant valued at \$193,000 for the project "Discursive and Institutional Barriers to Urban Environmental Sustainability: A Comparative Study of Infrastructure Policy in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth."

+ **Professor Paul Carter** was awarded \$50,000 for the project "Sustaining Places: Public Space Design in a time of loss."

+ **Associate Professor Paul Walker** was awarded \$131,000 for the project "Building Difference: Architectural Strategies in Colonial Museums."

+ **Dr Jim Smith** with Associate Professor PE Love, Prof DH Walker and Associate Professor M Loosemore were awarded over \$243,000 for their project "Forensic management approach to rework mitigation and prevention in construction."

A team of 19 academics across three Universities, including nine from the University of Melbourne, have been appointed to carry out a series of 10 studies of the environmental features of the new 'Council House 2' (CH<sub>2</sub>) building for the City of Melbourne. The studies will be supported by a \$50,000 research grant, funded by

## NEWS

AusIndustry. Led by **Clare Newton** and **Dr Scott Drake** from the University of Melbourne, Dominique Hes from RMIT Centre for Design, and Craig Langston from Deakin University, the team also includes, from the University of Melbourne: **Professor Graham Brawn**, **Dr Darko Radovic**, **Professor Jon Robinson**, **Peter Williams**, John Wilson, Lu Aye, and David Ho; from RMIT University: Andrew Walker-Morrison, Graham Crist, Maazuza Othman, Dinesh Kumar, and Peter Lawther; from Deakin University: Graham Treloar, Mark Luther, and Bob Fuller. The 10 studies will address energy harvesting, air and physiology, cooling and heating, lighting, water use, materials, structure and construction, workplace environment, the business case for sustainable design, and nature and aesthetics in the sustainable city. CH<sub>2</sub> is a revolutionary new building that will set new standards for sustainable design in Melbourne. It has been given a six-star rating from the Green Building Council of Australia. Details on the CH<sub>2</sub> project can be found at: [www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/info.cfm?top=171&pg=1223](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/info.cfm?top=171&pg=1223)

### Alumni

**Alois Leopold Blank** (BArch1971) died on Sunday 17 August, 2003 at the age of 58 after a short battle with cancer.

**Andrew Byrne** (BArch 2003) was awarded joint second place in the 2004 RAlA & COLORBOND® steel Student Biennale, Australia's most prestigious student architectural design award.

**Neville Quarry** (BArch 1956) passed away on 21 October 2004. Neville was a much loved teacher in the Faculty from 1961 to 1970 before leaving to set up a school of architecture at the University of Lae, Papua New Guinea. He returned to Australia in 1976 and was Head of Architecture at the NSW Institute of Technology (now UTS) until 1989. He was awarded the RAlA Gold Medal in 1994.

**Professor Peter Rowe** (BArch 1968) stepped down from the role of Dean, Harvard Design School, Harvard University as of 30 June 2004 after 12 years of service. He plans to return to teaching and research at Harvard after a year's sabbatical.

**Professor Helen Tippett** (BArch 1955) died in New Zealand on Wednesday 11 February 2004 after a long battle with cancer. Professor Tippet gave an enormous amount of herself to the Faculty over many years and was instrumental in the (then) radical decision to add project management to the Faculty's architecture curriculum in the 1970s.

### Students

Two pieces from the Faculty's 2003 Timber Furniture Workshop elective were chosen

for exhibition at the annual *FRESH!* show at Craft Victoria. They were *Hallstand* by **Robert Sheng Si Yu** and *Rockabye* by **Rosalyna Wee May Yung**.

**Miki Mitsuta**, (current MLArch) was awarded an intern program with EDAP Pty Ltd and a trip to work on architectural planning for the Bahamas in June 2004, followed by a working scholarship/ placement in Hong Kong for six weeks.

**Justine Image** (final-year BLArch) has been awarded second place in the Australia-wide Hassell Travelling Scholarships in Landscape Architecture.

**Hui-Chuan Wang**, a current MPD (by Research) student, held an exhibition of her recent paintings, *Bodhisattvas, where are you* at the Fo Guang Yuan Art Gallery in July and August 2004.

**Cristina Rus** (BArch 2001, current MUD) and **Joyce Li** (BArch 2004) collaborated on *roomplooms*, an exhibition of recent artworks at George Paton Gallery, in July and August 2004.

**Janet McGaw** (BArch 1990, MArch 2000, Current PhD) curated *Urban Threads*, an architectural installation in Melbourne's alcoves and lanes from September to October 2004. *Urban Threads* explored the ways in which those without land, money and power shape the urban fabric: in particular, the private territories that are staked out in the public realm and the spatial practices that connect them. All creative works in the installation were produced by women who are homeless and socially isolated, during workshops facilitated by Janet at a regular support group that is run by Living Room Primary Health Service and Wesley Mission Melbourne.

At the end of 2003, five students and **Dr Richard Reed** were sponsored by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors to travel to Sydney and compete in the inaugural interstate RICS moot court against UTS. After three hours of presenting case law, debate and closing addresses, the bench awarded the case to the University of Melbourne but the overall night to UTS. **Yash Bonno** (final-year BUPD) was awarded the best counsel. This year a team will be travelling to Sydney to contest the trophy on 26 November, 2004.

*Value Added* is a new lunchtime seminar series to be held at least monthly. Presenters will always be students, presenting projects they've completed at university, outside of university, for competitions, or have had built. It is a celebration of the student voice in architectural discourse. It will not only involve presentations of student work,

but also an opportunity for the audience to critique that work and the world of architecture in general.

*AND* was a new lecture series run by early-year undergraduate students. Speakers included Morry Schwarz, Kerstin Thompson, Sean Godsell, Cassandra Fahey, Michael Wright and Walter Mclvor.

**Chelle MacNaughtan** (BArch 2001 and current PhD candidate) held an exhibition, *Sound in the Space of Architecture*, from 2–12 November at George Paton Gallery. The show featured Chelle's PhD work-in-progress.

### Events

*intentCITY* is a street forum celebrating the launch of Architects for Peace, to be held at the Hamer Hall undercroft, the Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne on Saturday 20 November, 11.00am to 7.30pm. Jointly coordinated by **Beatriz Maturana** (MUD 2004) and other founding members, this event offers a public forum to discuss the 'political city', the built environment, ecology, and in particular our involvement in war and what can be done to prevent this. Architects for Peace is a forum for planners, architects, urban designers, environmentalists, academics and students seeking urban development based on social justice, solidarity, respect and peace. For more information visit [www.architectsforpeace.org](http://www.architectsforpeace.org).

The Faculty is hosting the 11th annual Pacific Rim Real Estate Society Conference from 23–27 January 2005 with a theme of Property Investment. For further information on the conference visit [www.conferences.unimelb.edu.au/prres](http://www.conferences.unimelb.edu.au/prres), telephone +61 3 8344 6389 or email [sa-conference@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:sa-conference@unimelb.edu.au).

### Dean's Lecture Series

The Dean's Lecture Series 2004 featured:

- + Marco Frascari
- + Claire Parin
- + Andrew Olszewski
- + Miles Lewis
- + Steve Harfield
- + James Cain
- + Gabriella Olshammar
- + Peter Corrigan
- + Kevin O'Connor
- + Greg Burgess

To receive information on the Dean's Lecture Series 2005 please email [abp-info@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:abp-info@unimelb.edu.au) or visit [www.abp.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au)

# ALUMNI RELATIONS

Alumni is a Latin word which means former students. There are about 140,000 men and women located in over 100 countries who are part of the University of Melbourne alumni community.

The University's alumni relations program offers you opportunities to continue networking with former students and staff, and provides links to employers and careers services.

You do not need to join up or pay any fees. When you leave the University of Melbourne you automatically become part of the alumni community. If you keep us updated on your current address, we will keep you informed of University news and events via our free annual alumni magazine, *Melbourne University Magazine*.

Other services available to alumni include:

- + our free email bulletin—  
GradNet@Melbourne
- + alumni career programs
- + access to alumni networks interstate and overseas

+ access to faculty, departmental and college alumni networks

+ the Alumni@Melbourne website

For further information about alumni relations at the University of Melbourne contact:

Phone: +61 3 8344 7469

Fax: +61 3 8344 6895

Email: [alumni-info@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:alumni-info@unimelb.edu.au)

Web: [www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni](http://www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni)

## Graduate Profiles

The Faculty is seeking to include short profiles of its alumni in future editions of *Atrium*. The University's alumni website allows you to provide your profile online at:

[www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni/vgaprofileform.html](http://www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni/vgaprofileform.html)

Whatever you studied, and whatever you're doing, we are keen to hear about what you have been doing since graduation. Fellow alumni will also be intrigued to hear the stories of those they once sat next to in classes.

## Reunions

The urge to get together periodically to celebrate with one's peers is strong, with reunions being a familiar part of university life. If you would like to organise a reunion for your year level the Faculty and the University's Alumni Relations Program can offer support in several ways. Please contact Dean Munday on tel: +61 3 8344 3740 or email: [dmunday@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:dmunday@unimelb.edu.au) for more information.

## Faculty Contacts

### Postgraduate Degrees

All enquiries:

Graduate Admissions Officer: Holly Davis +61 3 8344 0401  
email [abp-pgrad@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:abp-pgrad@unimelb.edu.au)

### Postgraduate Coursework Degrees

Course information

Architecture	Assoc. Professor Paul Walker
Architectural History and Conservation	Professor Miles Lewis
Architectural Practice and Management	Mr Tony Mussen
Landscape Architecture	Mr Andrew Saniga
Planning and Design	Professor Miles Lewis
Property and Construction	Mr Peter Williams
Urban Design	Dr Darko Radovic
Urban Planning	Assoc. Professor Nick Low

### Research Degrees

Course information

Doctor of Philosophy:	Lorenne Wilks
Master of Architecture (by Thesis)	Lorenne Wilks
Master of Architecture (by Design)	Professor Philip Goad
Master of Building (By Thesis)	Professor Jon Robinson
Master of Landscape Architecture (by Thesis)	Prof Catherin Bull
Master of Planning and Design (by Thesis):	Prof Kevin O'Connor

## www.abp.unimelb.edu.au

### Undergraduate Degrees

Architecture  
Landscape Architecture  
Planning and Design  
Property and Construction  
Urban Planning and Development

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### *Atrium*

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