



Atrium

14 | 2010

(DE) CONSTRUCTING RESILIENCE

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE,
BUILDING & PLANNING



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

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Dean's Message



This issue of *Atrium* is *(de)constructing resilience*. We explore this idea by focusing on some of the powerful connections our staff, students and alumni are making in developing resilience in response to adversities in communities beyond the formal university context, both locally and internationally.

Dr David O'Brien's widely recognised Bower series of studios continued this year, with a group of MSD students travelling to the Northern Territory to construct 'media boxes' in two town camps outside Darwin. Created out of disused shipping containers, these were designed by Master of Architecture student Silas Gibson, following a close consultation process with the local communities.

We profile other research projects and studios that are forging significant connections with local and international communities. *The Indigenous Placemaking in Central Melbourne* research project led up by Janet McGaw and Anoma Pieris; Peter Raisbeck's travelling studio to Mexico focused on recyclable housing; David O'Brien's research into post-disaster housing; and Milinda Pathiraja's PhD research into building initiatives in Sri Lanka are all defined by their engagement with so-called 'vulnerable' communities and facilitating resilience.

The contributions of our alumni are, as always, of particular interest to us, as we have highlighted in recent issues. In this issue, we celebrate the achievements of Ray Tonkin, former Executive Director of Heritage Victoria, in our alumni profile on page 12. Mr Tonkin received a Public Service Medal as part of the 2010 Australia Day Honours Awards, recognition of his extensive career at the centre of cultural heritage conservation and consultation in this state.

One of our more recent Landscape Architecture graduates is making her mark, forging connections between young professionals in Australia and Asia. Lucinda Hartley is a landscape architect with local and international development experience, who has founded [co]design (Community Oriented Design) studio, a non-profit, multi-disciplinary design studio that provides emerging designers from various backgrounds with a platform to engage with community development projects.

To complement the recognition of work our alumni, we also bring focus to the experiences of our students. Hugh O'Neill has provided us with recollections of life as a student in the Faculty of Architecture in the 1950s, with particular reference to the international students.

A third focus here is then the contribution of members of the staff of the Faculty. Janne Morrison's article on Jon Robinson's



retirement dinner in May is an insight and tribute to the career and contribution that Jon, our former Professor of Property and Construction, made to the Faculty and the University which have been most appropriately recognised by the appointment of Jon as Professor Emeritus.

In this issue we also pay tribute to Bill Mitchell, Professor and Dean at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who has made a profound contribution in the fields, first, of computer aided design and, later, urban design. Bill remained close to Melbourne and our Faculty; his influence on my own academic career was enormous.

The impact of giving is highlighted in a piece on the Graham Treloar Award and Siqing Chen, 2010 recipient of the Award. To acknowledge the outstanding academic contribution made to the University of Melbourne by Associate Professor Graham Treloar, the Faculty established an endowment fund for the Graham Treloar Fellowship. Associate Professor Treloar played a major role in the Faculty as a talented researcher and an influential mentor to many young researchers.

In May of this year, we celebrated the academic achievements of our students and staff at the annual Dean's Honours Awards. This event was a wonderful opportunity to recognise the work that is being created within our programs, studios and research

projects across all five disciplines – architecture, landscape architecture, property, construction and urban planning. The Awards have significant links with industry and our design community, with various organisations and companies supporting individual prizes or awards. We thank all of our benefactors for investing in the future of our high-achieving students.

As the opening of the 12th Venice Architecture Biennale approaches, I note again how well our Faculty is represented at this major international event. Of the 17 projects selected by Creative Directors, John Gollings and Ivan Rijavec, three teams are led by members of our Faculty and six consist of our alumni. This is an extraordinary representation for our Faculty in one of the most important events on the international architecture calendar. As part of one of the chosen teams, for the *Fear Free City* project, I am personally looking forward to being in Venice in August and experiencing the energy distinctive to the Biennale.

The recent professional accreditation of our new Master of Landscape Architecture and Master of Architecture programs was a clear endorsement not only of the quality of our new architectural and landscape architecture programs, but of the 'New Generation' degree structure, often referred to as the 'Melbourne Model', introduced

by the University of Melbourne in 2008. You can read more about our recent accreditation success on page 15.

Our vibrant event culture continued over winter with a suite of events, exhibitions and conferences presented across the Faculty. We enjoyed hosting the UK-based engineer Jane Wernick - one of the creative minds behind London's Millenium Wheel - who presented a Dean's Lecture in early August. The award-winning firm Jane Wernick Associates is responsible for an extensive portfolio of buildings, bridges, sculptures and furniture for local and international clients.

Other event highlights included a special lecture by Juan Pedro Sabbagh of Sabbagh Architects (one of the most influential architectural practices in Chile), the *Practices, Processes & Politics of Indigenous Placemaking* symposium, the *35TH AUBEA Construction Management Conference*. These and other interesting Faculty events, exhibitions and news are covered in *From the Faculty* on pages 22-23.

To access our changing calendar of exhibitions, public lectures, conference and activities please visit our website:
<http://www.msd.unimelb.edu.au/events/>

Best wishes
Tom Kvan



Indigenous Place/Cyberspace: 'Bower 2010' Builds Media Boxes In the Northern Territory

LOUISA RAGAS

Communication via the internet is taken for granted, but for many Indigenous communities it remains something remote and inaccessible – rarely part of the immediate environment.

A recent ABP project attempts to address this, and other issues of access and education, for two communities in the Northern Territory through a unique building initiative. 'Bower 2010' - the indigenous housing project led by ABP's Dr David O'Brien and Hamish Hill - has resulted in the design and construction of two 'media boxes' in the Northern Territory. Situated in town camps just outside Darwin - one in the Gudorrka Community and one in Knuckkeys Lagoon - the media boxes provide a focal point for skills training and a place where locals can make connections with people beyond their region through internet access.

'Bower 2010' is an architecture studio for Melbourne School of Design (MSD) students, and part of the MSD's on-going initiative in the Northern Territory. David and Hamish first took a group of MSD students to Darwin in 2008, where after consultation with the community, the students were invited to recycle one of the derelict houses in the Gudorrka Community.

The group then used their on-site experience to design other facilities for Gudorrka and the neighboring Knuckkeys Lagoon community - one of which is the 'media box' design that was selected for construction as the 'Bower 2010' project. Through the community consultation process, Master of Architecture student Silas Gibson noticed the lack of access to technology within the town camps, the high rates of unemployment and the need for a space for children to do homework. Out of this emerged his concept for the media box.

'I was lucky enough to have my proposal chosen for further development', says Silas. 'While I was on an exchange in January my colleague George Stavrias - who has worked with me on the development and documentation of the design - went to Darwin to visit stakeholders for further consultation. We made adjustments and incorporated elements such as the library and multi-purpose room and discussed the best site for the centres with community leaders.'

'In March I visited Darwin again, further refining the design... We were working to a very tight budget and also had to take into consideration the harsh climate and the possibility of cyclones - everything had to be engineered for those conditions. We also added steel mesh screens over windows and used perspex instead of glass, due to the possibility of vandalism.'

The media box design is essentially a converted 40ft shipping container with a pre-fabricated carport roof over the top for shade. The shipping container has had windows cut out, desks installed, joinery built in and partially lined with a sound absorbing pin-board material. The outside of each container has been painted by local artists and the surrounds have been landscaped to integrate them into their natural sites.

'I envisaged the 'media box' as being a secure place that community members could use computers to access services, check banking, check email, search for jobs and for children to do their homework,' says Silas. 'Through further consultation the design expanded to include space for a community library and a private multi-purpose room to be used for meetings, craft and homework. I felt that such a facility would help community members to improve social networks with people outside the

community, both via the internet and through having a place where people could come to run programs and share skills. The centre will be the catalyst for further community development initiatives such as media, music and art programs.'

Ongoing community consultation has been integral to the Bower project. Allison Stout, one of the original students from the 2008 studio, has returned to assist the leaders and help with the community consultation. The Gudorrka and Knuckkeys Lagoon communities were heavily involved in decision-making around the siting, fit-out and construction of the media boxes, and some of the locals were involved in the actual build. This inclusive approach created a sense of pride and ownership over the finished buildings.

As David O'Brien outlined in the article *Consult/Design/Build*, in a recent edition of *Atrium* (No.11 2009), 'the intent (of the Bower projects) has been to use the construction processes and outcomes as a way to stimulate further discussion with the community groups involved. Marginalised communities are not used to making decisions about their own environments and their shelter. Traditionally they have had little or no choice. The process of talking, designing and then building together opens up many opportunities for a more useful dialogue which then enriches the ideas, processes and outcomes for the next project and so on.'

FOR SILAS THE BOWER PROJECT HAS BEEN A 'FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE', ONE THAT HAS FUELLED HIS ARCHITECTURE AMBITIONS.

The construction process enabled bonds to form between the university students and locals, and an understanding of the complexities of design and development in town camps. 'So often projects fail when they are not matched with community needs', David says.

'Working with our partner communities, as well as agencies such as Darwin Regional CDEP, Ironbark Employment, Yilli Rreung Housing and AMITY. Funding has come from the Australian Government departments, Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations, and the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. We have formed a strong team capable of delivering results and value for money. Our 'media boxes' are also designed to 'fit into' the fabric of the community and provide space for people to get together in a positive environment.'

The Bower project clearly has distinct benefits not just for the community but for the architecture students involved. MSD students have shown that they are keen to get involved in initiatives that extend their design skills and address

complex issues social, environmental and shelter issues in marginalized communities in Australian and abroad.

Sixteen Master of Architecture students - Leah Bell, Reza Bolouri, Mel Chan, Amy Clark, Beck DeHaas, Jessie Fowler, Court Gibbs, Rosie Gunzburg, Alie Kennedy, Chin Lim, Fabian Prideaux, Jingyi Tan, Frank Vedelago, Steph Westbrook, Lulu Zhai and George Stavrias - were involved in the construction process in Darwin, along with designer Silas Gibson.

Stephanie Westbrook, one of the students engaged in the project, valued the on-site experience and how it will inform her ongoing design work. 'When we return from Darwin, we engage in a design component which will result in one of the Bower 2010 group's designs being chosen to be constructed by students involved in the next Bower studio,' she says. 'This experience will allow me to formulate and evaluate design decisions with a better understanding of the nuance and specificity that (any) context requires.'

For Silas the Bower project has been a 'fantastic experience', one that has fuelled his architecture ambitions. 'It has

provided an opportunity to meet and work with people that I never would have had otherwise,' he says. 'It has been great getting something built so early in my career, and I've made contacts with the right people in the Northern Territory that will make it a possible for me to work on similar projects in the future.'

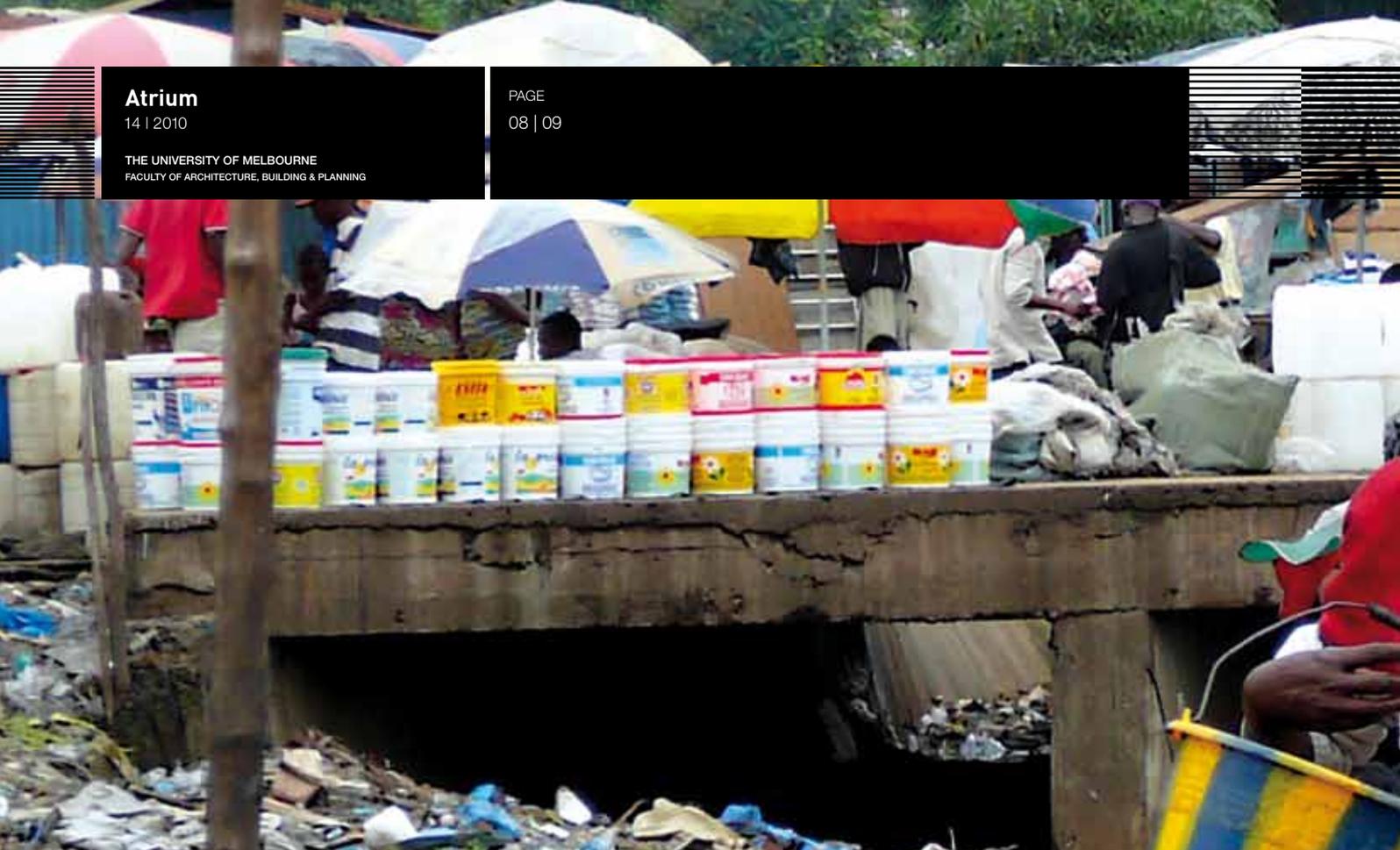
The innovative Bower series of design studios will continue under David O'Brien's leadership, with another group of MSD students scheduled to return to the Northern Territory in 2011.

The Media Box project was generously supported by an anonymous donor to the Faculty and materials for the project were generously supplied by the following companies:

Bowens
CSR
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Surdex Steel
Vinidex Systems and Solutions



- 1. Bowens
- 2. Litesteel Industries
- 3. Modwood Technologies Pty Ltd
- 4. Surdex Steel
- 5. Vinindex Systems and Solutions and CSR



The Melbourne School of Design hosts William Cobbett- global expert in urban planning and development

LOUISA RAGAS

The Melbourne School of Design (MSD) is committed to bringing international figures in the field of urban planning to the university, to stimulate thought and debate on the challenges and successes of urbanisation and urban planning. This engagement is critical to our wider understanding of urban development and poverty, the creation of habitable environments and other critical planning issues.

Recently the MSD hosted William Cobbett, an expert in the area of international urban development. Cobbett is currently Manager of the Cities Alliance, an organisation founded by the World Bank and UN Habitat. He joined the Cities Alliance in 2001 on secondment from the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in Nairobi, where he had designed and launched the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure.

Cities Alliance is a global coalition of cities and their development partners committed to scaling up successful approaches to poverty reduction. 'The Cities Alliance special contribution is to mainstreaming

slum upgrading and city development strategies and to providing information and guidelines on the related urban problems, policies and implementation strategies', states Professor Richard Tomlinson, Chair of Urban Planning at the University of Melbourne. 'Amongst others, Australia, Shack/Slum Dwellers International and Habitat for Humanity International are members of the Cities Alliance. William Cobbett was also on the team of the African National Congress that negotiated South Africa's democratic constitution.'

Cobbett presented a Dean's Lecture on *The challenge of scale in an urbanising world: Land, services and citizenship*. In this fascinating presentation, Cobbett shared his perspective on the challenges presented by urbanisation, based on the experience of the Cities Alliance over the past decade. He described how Latin America has completed its urban transition - a legacy it is now grappling with and how over the next 30 years, a similar transformation will take place across sub-Saharan Africa, south Asia and south-east Asia.

The Cities Alliance produced a Medium Term Strategy three years ago, which is now being rolled out. The strategy was based on a critique of current approaches to international development assistance, and proposed a significant shift away from making a series of individual grants, and replacing these with comprehensive, multi-year assistance, in a number of countries. This is based on significant Cities Alliance impacts in some middle-income countries such as Brazil, Philippines, Chile and - to a lesser extent - South Africa. The Cities Alliance is now looking to focus more on lower-income countries.

Cobbett also spoke to managing urbanisation and three key challenges: the challenge of urban land markets; scaling up the delivery of water, transport systems and other services; and citizenship that affords all residents rights and renders city governments accountable. Much of the issue requires formalising the informal in that, for example, when land and services are provided informally, they will cost the poor more than households with formal services due to criminal landlords and systems of service delivery. This requires



RECENTLY THE MSD HOSTED
WILLIAM COBBETT, AN EXPERT
IN THE AREA OF INTERNATIONAL
URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

getting policies right and the appropriate policy institutions and processes in place. Very often this task is avoided because the problems are complex and messy. Without political will, measurable in terms of policies and budgets, and leadership, the problems are not addressed. Getting the policies right and ensuring accountable institutions and processes of governance enables cities to do more than catch up after mass urbanisation and to get ahead of the curve through, for example, the provision of serviced sites and other services in addition. He further observed that while academics and the media concentrate on mega cities, most urbanisation is occurring in medium and small cities, which is where institutions are weak and resources scarce. Cities that work are essential for economic growth and without economic growth urban and rural poverty cannot be reduced.

Whilst in the Faculty, Cobbett gave subsequent seminars to the general public and students, interacted with students interested in the field, and contributed to urban planning classes. Hosting inspirational figures such as Cobbett can be amazingly powerful for students

still defining their own career paths. On the day following his Dean's Lecture Series presentation, Cobbett discussed changing approaches to international development assistance. Of particular interest was his discussion of the move from international development assistance in the form of short visits from technical experts from the North to South-South learning that involves a sharing of experience; what has worked and what has not worked in urban governance and addressing specific issues such as slum upgrading. In addition, he described a process where advisers stay for extended periods in cities and among communities where they presume to offer advice.

Professor Tomlinson believes that William Cobbett speaks to a far wider audience than urban planners or planning students. 'His activities and influence are global in reach among developing countries and countries formerly a part of the Soviet Union', in respect to urban planning, city economic development, housing, municipal finance, the role of NGOs and urban development policy more generally', Professor Tomlinson states.

William Cobbett brought to the MSD and the University of Melbourne an international and applied understanding of how to address urban issues and poverty in developing countries. It is this kind of international knowledge transfer that will inspire and provoke our own students, staff and community, in regard to understanding the challenges of urbanisation and urban planning at local and global levels.

Professor Tomlinson continues that, 'my sense is that there is a hunger among Australia students to learn about developing countries. Certainly development subjects are increasing in number throughout the University and the number included in the urban planning curriculum will likewise increase. This will enhance the internal development planning specialisation in the planning program.'

ABP Research and Studios Investigate Communities: Constructing Resilience Through Collaboration and Cultural Representation

LOUISA RAGAS

This year there are a number of research and studio activities undertaken by staff and students within the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning involved with communities who are often termed 'vulnerable' or seek greater cultural representation.

The challenge for all these research projects and studios is to be attuned to the cultural nuances and challenges of each group or region, and for the eco and social impact of any design solutions to be positive. Community consultation and collaboration is a critical aspect of each project. Outlined below are just a few of these ABP initiatives.

ABP's **Dr Anoma Pieris** and **Dr Janet McGaw**, along with **Dr Emily Potter** and **Professor Graham Brawn**, are currently conducting research into Indigenous placemaking, funded by an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Research Grant. The project – *Indigenous Place-making in Central Melbourne: Representation, practices and creative research* – will contribute to making a place of belonging, gathering and cultural exchange for and with Indigenous Australians in Melbourne. The research team is engaged in research aimed at generating a more inclusive and dynamic understanding of Indigenous identity. The project aims to provide a platform for reconciliatory activities in Victoria, with the support of Victorian Indigenous Communities, Reconciliation Victoria, and the Melbourne City Council, and inform the general public about the need for such a cultural facility.

A recent outcome of Dr Pieris's and Dr McGaw's campaign to further the concept of an Indigenous cultural centre in Melbourne was the symposium *Practices, Processes and Politics of Indigenous Place-making: A symposium*, held in June. The symposium essentially explored the notion of 'place' and its meaning for Indigenous Australians. Places are complex entities, not necessarily defined by physical structure or geographic location. Strategies for negotiating sites of difficult memory and working with the complexity and diversity of Indigenous cultures in processes of place-making are developing across architecture, heritage management, museology, and other modes of cultural representation.

The symposium highlighted some of these initiatives, in the context of a campaign to advance and realise a Victorian Indigenous Cultural Education and Knowledge Centre (VICEKC). It brought together international, national and local Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members, academics, designers, artists and architects, along with VICEKC stakeholders, to share experiences and reflections on successful cross-cultural interactions in the realm of place-making. The symposium followed on from a public conversation, held at BMW Edge, Federation Square, in which possibilities for an Indigenous Cultural Centre that represents all Indigenous Victorians was discussed.

Another ABP initiative making connections with communities – in this case, on the other side of the globe – is the MSD

Mexico Travelling Studio. Led by **Dr Peter Raisbeck** (Senior Lecturer in Architectural Practice), this interdisciplinary studio addressed two areas of concern to the world today: the need for new housing and the need to dispose of the waste generated within cities.

This intensive design studio explored the processes of urbanisation in Mexico City and Monterrey, with the students analysing social and informal housing, community development, waste stream ecologies, and recycling. Exposed to the contemporary architectural culture and discourse in Mexico, the group of MSD students had to imagine and investigate how waste materials can be used for low cost housing in the developing world. Working with academic staff and students from ITESM Monterrey, the group was challenged to design urban systems, shelters and building elements from refuse. The students explored the consequences of globalisation on waste systems and resource use and investigated the nexus between the disciplines of the designed environment and a systems approach to understanding waste ecologies.

Like the 'Bower' series of design studios, this studio has amazing outcomes for the students involved – not least, creating connections with local people and exchanging knowledge pertinent to design, low-cost construction, urban planning and the environment.

Dr David O'Brien's research project *Transformation of Post-Disaster Housing: The Case of Aceh, Indonesia* is focused



on exploring how effective reconstruction architecture from the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami has been, using Aceh as a case study.

David maintains that it is important that the various humanitarian agencies involved in any clean up and support effort take stock of the housing built after the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, as no one project has been completely successful. 'Although reconstruction agencies constructed vast numbers of housing in very trying circumstances, there is clear evidence that residents have found it necessary to remodel, renovate and transform their house to suit their own and broader community needs,' he says. 'This may well suggest that the reconstruction agencies 'missed their mark' by providing ill-conceived housing types. Indeed, around 30% of reconstruction houses are empty!

'Some of the major issues with the new dwellings are that they are too small for families – people liked living in extended family groups in bigger houses – and the bathrooms are external, making it problematic for female residents who must cover up outside under Islamic law...a bit of a hassle if you just want to go to the bathroom!'

David's ongoing research reveals and raises various questions in relation to post-disaster housing initiatives. 'There are a number of questions agencies need to ask', he says. 'Why must the beneficiaries of this housing transform their houses? What needs are not met through the standardised house? Can particular house types improve the capacity for residents

to transform their house? Is there scope for incorporating disaster risk reduction into the transformation process?'

One of the most important questions is: what lessons does such transformation offer that can inform future policy and practice in the field of post-disaster housing reconstruction?

Research currently being conducted by PhD (by Design) student **Milinda Pathiraja** also investigates urbanization and construction practices and the socio-economic impact of these factors in specific 'third-world' communities. Milinda is finalizing his PhD thesis on 'The idea of 'robust technology' in the definition of a 'third-world' practice: architecture, design and labour training'. His research investigates whether building projects can also be training grounds for technical skills in construction and produce sound buildings. His thesis proposes that architects can act as industrial policy-makers by strategically designing technological configurations into construction projects to incorporate skill-building and enable progressive training. In other words, can the integration of technological development and broad socio-economic growth be facilitated through architectural design strategies that are aimed at connecting construction markets rather than keeping them separated?

Using Colombo in Sri Lanka, as a case study, Milinda has determined that the problem lies with a fragmented construction industry with little or no reciprocal connection in training, know-how, and career development paths,

resulting in minimal transfer of technology and skills. There has been little response from political and institutional agencies to facilitate adequate skill-building platforms. Milinda's research looks at whether design professions – architects in particular – can develop technological and design frameworks which allow the workers in each industrial pocket to move across these boundaries, learn from others, and improve their technical and economic status.

Milinda's research, under the supervision of **Professor Paolo Tombesi**, proposes a model which defines a broad technological framework at industry level that is both flexible and adaptable so that it can be used to expand the training opportunities available within construction projects.

All these ABP projects are engaged with diverse communities and facilitating resilience and cultural representation on some level. It is just one more way the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning is committed to moving beyond the formal university space to connect with communities by transferring and receiving design knowledge that ultimately builds resilience in vulnerable contexts.

ABP Alumni Profiles

RAY TONKIN BY LOUISA RAGAS



Cultural heritage is critical to defining and celebrating our nation's diverse history and character. Acknowledged as a national leader in cultural heritage matters, Ray Tonkin recently received a Public Service Medal at the 2010 Australia Day Honours Awards: a fitting acknowledgment of his incredible public service to the recognition, management and promotion of Victoria's non-Indigenous cultural heritage.

Ray Tonkin has held an outstanding leadership role in heritage conservation and consultation for over three decades, most notably as Executive Director of Heritage Victoria, a role he retired from in June 2009.

Mr Tonkin managed Heritage Victoria for the unprecedented period of 22 years and was Executive Director of the Heritage Council and its predecessors. He skilfully balanced the requirements of government, a statutory authority and the general public, whilst developing a state heritage protection system that has the most comprehensive listing in Australia. He was central in engineering the extraordinary growth and profile of Heritage Victoria and in championing various policies and projects across the field of heritage conservation and consultation.

Ray Tonkin's early focus on architecture and heritage was consolidated at the University of Melbourne where he received a Bachelor of Architecture in 1971 and a Master of Urban Planning in 1982. He commenced his architecture degree in 1966 with 'a vision that I would spend the rest of my life designing houses (didn't we all?)'.

The inspiration for his future career came in fourth year when George Tibbits ran the subject *Australian Architecture*. 'This opened my eyes to the history of local architecture and introduced me to architectural history research,' Mr Tonkin recalls. 'George was inspiring and remained so, for me, until his death. I hold him responsible for many of the advances that came in heritage conservation in this state through his mentoring of so many students who were equally inspired by him. I guess it was inevitable that I would

ultimately seek out work involved in architectural history and after doing some bits and pieces for the new Australian Heritage Commission, I was offered work for the relatively new Victorian Historic Buildings Council. The rest is history.'

In his Heritage Council farewell speech entitled 'Thirty years in harness', Mr Tonkin reflected on his career and drew focus to the achievements and progress Heritage Victoria has made since the 1970s. The transformation of this organisation and the government and community views around cultural heritage has been immense.

'The Historic Buildings Register, established in 1974, contained 370 places - virtually all buildings constructed in the nineteenth century. By 2009 the Victorian Heritage Register supports over 2000 places (including buildings, landscapes, shipwrecks, objects and trees), the Heritage Inventory of historic archaeological places contains 7500 entries.'

Indeed, Heritage Victoria is now a sophisticated operation, employing around 60 professional staff, and is acknowledged as an important arm of government in Victoria. In his stirring farewell speech, Mr Tonkin outlined the growth of interest in heritage issues and the changing nature and definition of cultural heritage. He noted that:

'The community has become increasingly attached to its heritage places and individuals and groups (including local government) invest considerable resources in planning and other forums arguing for preservation and conservation. If in 1978 I had suggested to a number of municipalities that within 30 years they would be spending well over \$100,000 per annum each for specialist heritage advice they would have laughed at me.'

Mr Tonkin's own career highlights centre on the milestones that Heritage Victoria achieved during his leadership:

'I was privileged to be at the centre of the great development of heritage conservation in the community', he says. 'In particular, to have the opportunity to help establish Victoria as the leader

in heritage conservation in Australia and to lead a committed and dynamic team at Heritage Victoria. The inspiration provided by those people kept me going for many years. Also, the opportunity to relate to the broader community and to assist it in achieving goals was (and still is) very important to me. When I started working in heritage conservation in the mid to late 70's it was not seen to be a real job and nor was there a professional group working exclusively in this area. There now is.'

While the achievements are significant, Mr Tonkin also believes that the future of heritage conservation in Australia depends on certain barriers being broken down. He identifies three challenges which require ongoing focus and development: the drawing together of the identification and management of the cultural heritage of indigenous and non-indigenous Australians; improved heritage place management; and the need to continue the development of a sound national system of heritage protection.

Although he has retired as Executive Director of Heritage Victoria, Mr Tonkin remains passionately engaged with various cultural heritage issues. He sees the challenge of dealing with 'intangible heritage' - essentially the customs and practices of our society - as one critical issue that will occupy the community in the future.

'Intangible heritage has become a significant point of discussion in international heritage forums and the debates will inevitably find their way to our shores', he says. 'I doubt very much that the traditional techniques of listing and permitting can effectively deal with this aspect of our heritage, but I do see that this is an area that is shared between indigenous and non-indigenous communities. Perhaps this is a key to my first challenge.'

Ray Tonkin's farewell speech is the inaugural Heritage Council address. You can read his address on the Heritage Victoria website - <http://heritage.vic.gov.au/Publications/Heritage-Council-address-2009.aspx>

LUCINDA HARTLEY

University of Melbourne, GradDip
Landscape Architecture, 2002 - 2004
Australian Institute of Landscape
Architects Victorian Student Prize 2004
Cement Concrete and Aggregates
Australia National Student Prize 2004
Asialink Weary Dunlop Fellow 2008
Endeavour Executive Award 2009

Lucinda Hartley is a Landscape Architect with local and international development experience across Australia, Asia and Pacific including positions with UN, AusAID and Habitat for Humanity. Lucinda founded [co] design (Community Oriented Design) studio, a non-profit, multi-disciplinary design studio that provides emerging designers from architecture, landscape architecture, planning, urban design, engineering and more with a platform to engage with community development projects. She also represents Asia-Pacific on the Youth Advisory Board of UN-Habitat.

Lucinda initially moved to Vietnam in 2008 to work with the Asian Coalition of Housing Rights on resettlement and upgrading of slums and informal settlements. As an Australian Landscape Architect, she found that this was an opportunity to explore linkages between professional design and community development, and to build linkages between organisations in Australia and Asia.

She has now returned to Australia, but continues to maintain an involvement with projects in the region through [co] design studio, a community based design organisation. At [co]design, her current focus is on WE BUILD, India - a collaborative project to develop a sustainable living precinct for rural-urban migrants in Bangalore.

A highlight of her career so far has been working with different cultures 'it reinforces to me that there are no 'right' and 'wrong' ways of going about problem solving, but differences that we can all learn from' she says 'acknowledging that there are cultural differences is a good place to start, and then being patient and taking time to talk, reflect and understand each other. I find design is a powerful tool to work across cultures and working visually can often help to overcome language/cultural barriers.'

Through [co]design, Lucinda is currently focusing on building connections between young professionals in Australia and Asia. 'Design education is still quite euro-centric, yet young professionals often find themselves working in Asia without any preparation in cross-cultural communication. [co]design studio is a design organisation that offers young professionals from Australia and Asia the opportunity to work together on grass-roots community projects. This is not about Australians working overseas or vice-versa, but about learning to work together as global citizens.'

In 2010 [co]design studio partnered with Global Citizens for Sustainable Development (GCSD), a Bangalore-based NGO working to increase the dialogue between young people across cultures, for WE BUILD, a program that will bring young people from Australia and India together to work on hands-on building projects in Bangalore.

'The WE BUILD project specifically aims to develop a sustainable living precinct for rural-urban migrants who face barriers to shelter, sanitation and housing. [co]design studio are working with GCSD to develop a masterplan and design drawings for the site. The project works under the premise that migration and the surrounding issues are fuelled by global forces, and there should therefore be a global response. While the WE BUILD project has tangible outcomes such as improving educational opportunities for 1000 families, it also aims to bring together young people from Australia and India in a cross-cultural dialogue which will spark future projects and long-term change.'

**For more information
on [co]design studio visit:**
www.codesignstudio.com.au

Updates on the WE BUILD project:
www.codesignstudio.posterous.com

Contact Lucinda:
codesignstudio@gmail.com



“THE ‘WE BUILD’ PROJECT
SPECIFICALLY AIMS TO DEVELOP
A SUSTAINABLE LIVING PRECINCT
FOR RURAL- URBAN MIGRANTS”

Celebrating the Career and Contribution of Jon Robinson

JANNE MORRISON

24th May, 2010, was a cold, wet night in Melbourne. However the warmth was soon felt in University House when a large group of academic colleagues, former students, alumni, industry professionals and members of professional institutes gathered to join Jon and members of his family celebrate his long and outstanding career.

The Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, Professor Tom Kvan, welcomed those gathered and spoke of Jon's contribution over the last 30 years, acknowledging that he had been instrumental in the development and delivery of Property & Construction education within the University of Melbourne, and in the wider academic and business community.

The Dean outlined that Jon was a graduate of Melbourne, Sydney and Reading (UK) Universities, and was a lecturer and senior lecturer at the University of Melbourne in the 1970s and 1980s before resigning to return to private practice. In 1996 Jon was appointed to the Chair of Building at the University of Melbourne and taught in the Property and Construction program.

It was noted that Jon was twice awarded the Peter Barrington Gold Medal for research in real estate, authored *Property Valuation and Investment Analysis* (Law Book Co, 1989) and over 60 papers in international conference proceedings and journals. Close associates Peter Williams, Garry Martin, Jeremy Pike, and Nigel Flannigan gave eloquent, moving and, at times, witty reminiscences of their dealings with Jon. Such personal and heartfelt words highlighted the very down to earth side of Jon's character and indicated how generously he gave his time to colleagues, students and friends. Of course, no reflection of Jon could proceed without recognizing his interest in sport, and in particular his beloved Geelong Football Club!!

I felt very privileged to work alongside Jon since his appointment to the Chair of Building in 1996 and was constantly both inspired and amazed by his unending tenacity for his work. Jon's amazing memory for facts, his analytical thought processes, his work ethic and his gentle and quiet way of achieving so much for Property & Construction were facets of his personality respected by so many. No drama ever seemed to

faze Jon and he would always deal with any incident in his usual calm style. In meetings, Jon was a 'no nonsense' type of person who would not prolong unnecessarily lengthy discourse, but who could manage to successfully sum up a debate and move on to the next item. Despite Jon's busy work schedule, he would always make himself available to the many staff and students who sought his wise counsel – often well after the end of the normal working day.

Jon also had a great sense of fun and it was always a good time when he would rally together a group of staff to join him for 'a bowl of soup' at University House where convivial conversation could range from the state of the economy to cricket, football, red wine or hearing tales of his intrepid walking trips.

Jon's love and devotion to his wife Liz and his sons were another facet of his persona that I greatly respected.

The evening culminated with the Dean announcing the award of the title of Professor Emeritus – a title I am sure all will see as very appropriate for a person of Jon's calibre.



MSD Accreditation News

LOUISA RAGAS

The Master of Architecture degree, offered by the Melbourne School of Design, recently received professional accreditation by the Architects Registration Board of Victoria and recognition by the Australian Institute of Architects (June 2010).

This formal accreditation is an endorsement not only of the quality and innovation of our new architectural program, but of the 'New Generation' degree structure, often referred to as the 'Melbourne Model', introduced by the University of Melbourne in 2008. It is also a fantastic endorsement of the Faculty's new 300-point Master of Architecture introduced this year, specifically designed for people with non-cognate degrees wishing to gain a qualification in architecture. In effect, this makes architectural education incredibly accessible for a broad range of people.

In the formal accreditation report, the panel noted that:

'The philosophy underpinning this new structure and its development is strongly supported. This is perceived as capable of bringing greater diversity to architectural education in Australia, than is available at present. There is also perceived to be the capacity to produce graduates capable of leading architecture's changing needs into the future, having an understanding of architecture within the wide environment and contextual milieu.'

Professor Philip Goad, Director of the Melbourne School of Design, believes that the accreditation of the new Master of Architecture for three years by the Architects Registration Board of Victoria and the Australian Institute of Architects is a fitting endorsement of a new approach to architectural education in Australia.

'We are thrilled that these national agencies, who are responsible for monitoring standards, have recognized the University of Melbourne's ongoing commitment to ensuring the highest standards of architectural education and to the production of excellent graduates prepared to face the challenges of contemporary architectural practice anywhere in the world,' says Professor Goad.

In our Master of Architecture program, architectural design is conceived in broad terms as the creative invention of architectural futures, integrating aesthetic, technological, programmatic, environmental and social issues in the production of buildings for the 21st century and beyond. Intensive design studios make up 50% of the course, leading to a research thesis. The studios are both project focused and research-led, with an emphasis on rigorous analysis and the creative production of ideas.

The program will continue to emphasise the required scope of architectural competencies, ensuring our graduate are innovative leaders in their professional careers. The degree will be reviewed again when the first cohorts complete the Bachelor of Environments (Architecture major) + Master of Architecture (200-point) and the Master of Architecture (300-point) in 2012.

Our newly created Master of Landscape Architecture has also recently received professional accreditation, further endorsing the innovation and quality of our curriculum and the University's 'New Generation' degree structure.

The reinvigorated Master of Landscape Architecture course, first launched in 2008, like the Master of Architecture, offers both a three year (300-point) and two year (200-point) program. The two year program is for students with an undergraduate

degree in landscape architecture and the three year program is for students with a non-cognate background. The first year of study in the 300-point Masters is carefully structured to allow students from diverse backgrounds including fine arts, science and humanities to develop the required knowledge and foundations in design, history and the physical systems before joining the 200 point Masters students in later years.

The Master of Landscape Architecture was professionally accredited by the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) in May this year and is recognised by the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA). Graduates will have completed the educational requirements for membership of the AILA and may apply for graduate membership as the first step towards full professional registration.

Jillian Walliss, Program Coordinator of the Master of Landscape Architecture, believes that the successful accreditation visit validates the extensive work invested in curriculum development and program changes over the past three years and also owes much to the introduction of the Melbourne School of Design. 'The MSD has offered many new opportunities for the landscape architecture program', she says. 'These developments combined with Federal government changes - such as the introduction of CSP places and the availability of Austudy to postgraduates - means that Melbourne University now offers a more equitable and quality graduate education in landscape architecture.'

For full program details of:

The Master of Architecture visit:
www.msd.unimelb.edu.au/architecture/

The Master of Landscape Architecture visit:
www.msd.unimelb.edu.au/landscape/

Vale:

PROFESSOR WILLIAM J (BILL) MITCHELL
B ARCH (1967) D ARCH (1997) 15 DECEMBER 1944 – 11 JUNE 2010



After graduating from the University of Melbourne in 1967, Bill Mitchell remained a close friend of the Faculty and strong supporter of the University. He applied to enter the University from his secondary school, Coburg High, in 1963 and was admitted to study medicine. Fortunately, for the field of architecture and urbanism, Bill decided belatedly to enter a course of study that aligned with his strengths in art and literature, asking to speak with the Dean, Professor Brian Lewis, who admitted him to architecture with permission to pursue studies in Fine Arts as part of the course. Starting his studies in the Tin Sheds, he followed the School of Architecture (as it was at that time) in its move the following year into the new building where we are now accommodated. Bill's student record shows that he performed consistently well across the five years of study, being awarded prizes each year in a range of subjects, with regular prizes for design including a final prize for the best final year thesis and a first place in design.

Bill was born in Horsham, Victoria; his parents, both teachers, moved the family to Warrnambool and then Bendigo before arriving in Melbourne (first Coburg, then Malvern), where his father was appointed principal. In an appreciation of her childhood days with her brother, Mary Close recalled the exploration of mine shafts, long treks in the bush, his attention to family and his compassion and humour. This portrait of his early exploits evoke the same Bill I met as a student in 1977 and the same Bill I had the honour of knowing for thirty years as business partner, mentor and friend. He never changed – he was brilliant, enquiring, inspiring, joyous and warm-hearted and his compassion and interest in our Faculty never faltered.

Having worked briefly at Yuncken Freeman, Bill departed Melbourne to take a course of study at Yale where he earned the Master of Environmental Design in 1969. This brought him to work with computational approaches to design in their early forms and his first book appeared in 1977, *Computer-Aided Architectural Design*, in which he surveyed the field comprehensively and set out to explain both practice and research at the time. Having embarked myself to understand the subject as an undergraduate at the time, this book set out the reality and potential of the field.

He never allowed his connection to the University of Melbourne to diminish. A regular visitor after he went overseas, Bill was appointed a Nell Norris Visiting fellow in 1981 and 1982 with the express purpose of advising us on how to prepare and enter the CAD and CAAD fields. He returned to receive his Doctor of Architecture (honoris causa) in 1997, the same year in which he was awarded recognition by way of the Appreciation Prize from the Architecture Institute of Japan. He returned as the Miegunyah Fellow in 2007 and spent a week with our students and colleagues, sitting in on reviews, delivering lectures and consulting broadly across curricula. Over the years he was called upon many times to advise on opportunities in hiring and to provide advice on academic matters.

Bill wrote prolifically, consistently with a clarity of style and word that laid out the most complex of subjects in accessible terms. As Professor George Stiny, friend and colleague at UCLA and MIT, noted recently, Bill had a remarkable ability to convey the most complex issues in just the right sized steps so that we could all grasp the marvel yet not be left bewildered by the technicalities.

His publications were many, in addition to the journal papers and his weekly columns, he published eleven books between 1977 and 2010, several of which have been recognised as the definitive texts on their subjects. He was so prolific and energetic and it was this that made the end so puzzling. As Bill's health failed slowly over the past four years, several people remarked that this could not be possible; with boundless intellectual energy, Bill could only keep going. And this was true, it was his body that gave up, not his mind or ideas. A prolific author, his last book was published just as he entered his final, intensive and debilitating period of treatment.

On a personal note, I had the very good fortune of getting to know Bill very well, first as an undergraduate in England in 1977, then in UCLA where he was Head of Department, later as a partner in a software start-up in California, then as an academic; throughout this he was a generous mentor and selfless in his access even in the most difficult of times. He has left many, many good friends around the world; Bill is survived by his wife Jane Wolfson and son Billy of Cambridge, MA; daughter Emily and son-in-law Seth Rooder of Brooklyn Heights, NY; his mother Joyce of Berwick, Vic; his sister Mary Close and brother-in-law John Close of Kallista, Vic; and his first wife, Elizabeth Asmis of Chicago, IL.

A memorial service to honour his life and work was held on Thursday 19 August in the Woodward Conference Centre, University Square, Carlton.

Tom Kvan
Dean

Faculty Recollections

HUGH O' NEILL

Dad back from New Guinea where he had been working on radar and the war was over. Aged twelve, I got a hundred per cent for geometry and was allowed to help select works for an exhibition of satirical linocuts by Eric Thake at East Kew Central School! Our close neighbours were setting off to Japan where Macmahon Ball was to represent the 'British' on the Allied Council. He'd already been to Jakarta reporting to Foreign Minister Evatt on the confrontation between the returning Dutch, and Indonesian revolutionaries. Down the street Chinese market gardeners lived and grew their vegetables on the river flats, selling them from their horse-drawn cart.

When we enrolled in Architecture in 1951 there were very few ex-service repatriation students left in the rebuilt army huts just north of the Grattan Street gates. Neil Clerehan's brightly lit entrance space, regularly filled for parties and crits, was very welcoming.

Professor Brian Lewis who established new courses from 1947, was an enthusiastic supporter of The Colombo Plan. His experiences in Malaya in the mid 1920s led to the Faculty's warm welcome to students under the scheme, coming from India, Ceylon, Malaya, Thailand and Indonesia.

We locals, about half the group of thirty, were confronted by Rupsuk, who it was said had eleven children back in India, Solomon David, later a Tamil Tiger, from Ceylon, Ajit Bhogal in a turban, Tiew Fong, Hok Pok Wong and several others from Hong Kong, Malaya and Singapore. Uldis Merrits, Zigurts Kapelis and Orestes Yakas, recent arrivals from Europe, would disappear early after the regular esquisse on Fridays to earn a living and support their families.

Peter McIntyre, an exciting young practitioner, was our tutor for some twelve hours a week under design lecturer Fritz Janeba who had come from Vienna in 1939 and settled in Warrandyte. He had worked in Peter Behrens' office and told us great stories about the origins of modernism.

Although luminaries Roy Grounds, Robin Boyd and Frederick Romberg were teaching in the Faculty, our vivid memories were of the Archi Revues directed by Peter McIntyre. We had a great time getting to know older students such as Andrew McCutcheon, Zula Goldinberg, Peter Staughton, Helen Tippet, Keith Lodge, Marjorie Ho, Neil Everest, Balwant Saini and Amos Rapoport. From our group Neville Quarry, Jim Bartlett, Jim McNamara, Helen Boyce, Philip Sargeant,

John Adam and Colin Munro combined extra-curricula activities in music, sport and theatre with revue performances and production. Brian Lewis regarded participation in Faculty football and the Revue as prerequisite for professional life!

My older brother had friends who were active in community and politics. With Prime Minister Robert Menzies' support they set up the Australian Volunteer Graduate Scheme to Indonesia in 1953 – principally under the inspiration of Political Science Professor Macmahon Ball. When I decided to seek employment in Jakarta as a public servant, friends and mentors said "professional suicide"! However encouraged by Professor Lewis, those two years designing public housing and teaching in Jakarta and Bandung led to employment in London with the champions of "Tropical Architecture" Maxwell Fry and Jane Drew.

Back in Melbourne we set up related study programs in 1962. It has been an obsession spending many years learning more, getting to know students during their first days in the Faculty and helping many from our region to turn their vision back towards their places of origin. Time passes.

FRITZ JANEBA WHO HAD COME FROM VIENNA IN 1939 AND SETTLED IN WARRANDYTE. HE HAD WORKED IN PETER BEHRENS' OFFICE AND TOLD US GREAT STORIES ABOUT THE ORIGINS OF MODERNISM.



Photograph of Neil Clerehan's entrance to the School of Architecture. Image by David Francis.

Graham Treloar Fellowship Winner 2010

DR SIQING CHEN



To acknowledge the outstanding academic contribution made to the University of Melbourne by Associate Professor Graham Treloar, the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning established an endowment for the Graham Treloar Fellowship. Associate Professor Treloar played a major role in the Faculty as a talented researcher and an influential mentor to many young researchers.

Graham was an internationally-renowned researcher in the field of embodied energy. In this, he developed a robust model for life cycle analysis of materials in construction and later in embodied water consumption.

His work has global impact and it will continue to play a fundamental role in understanding the effect of design decisions. He played a key role in the Faculty as a grant shepherd in which capacity he assisted in the developing and refinement of research grant applications.

Graham was enormously generous with his time and ideas to all who approached him for assistance. His most lasting and important Faculty contribution, however, was mentoring our Early Career Researchers.

The Fellowship supports an early career researcher from the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning to develop their research career in their chosen specialty.

Dr Siqing Chen was awarded the Graham Treloar Fellowship for 2010. His research involves analyzing the carbon footprint of rural settlements in China for the construction of a spatial simulation model that will enable him to quantify the carbon footprint of the Chinese villages and village clusters.

How to achieve sustainable development in rural areas is the topic which has always involved planners, designers and rural departments, executors and managers, and has created several questions, such as; ways to approach theoretical and practical guidelines in physical design, rural landscape planning; ways to establish an ecologically sustainable lifestyle; and ways to enable best usage of energy, buildings, new technologies and materials

Understanding the ecological processes for carbon balance at the landscape level will enable Dr Chen to develop alternative scenarios which can be used to guide future rural development, for example in the form of eco-village design, enabling a reduction of the carbon footprint of rural China. This is of critical importance considering that 70% of the 1.3 billion Chinese population is still living in rural settlements.

The Graham Treloar Fellowship assisted Dr Chen to attend the *First International Conference on Rural Settlements: Housing and Fabric* in Tehran, Iran, in May 2010 where he presented his preliminary findings. There he had the opportunity to discuss and debate the goals, policies and programs in rural

development application. It also enabled him to keep abreast of latest research developments in his field and to create connections with academic peers worldwide. In June and July, Dr Chen travelled to the Yunnan province of China to visit seven villages as part of this research.

Dr Siqing Chen is a lecturer in Landscape Architecture. He is a GIS ecologist and landscape planner and has practised since 2003 in a range of private and public sector settings in China and United States. His research interests focus on issues of landscape planning, landscape urbanism, carbon neutral landscape, and ecological infrastructure with emphasis on sustaining the built environment. Drawing on his ongoing research and practice, Dr Chen teaches landscape planning studio, constructed ecologies, and eco-systems for planning and design in the Master of Landscape Architecture.



Lunch to present the inaugural award of the Fellowship to Siqing Chen attended by Graham Treloar's family.



We're in this together

Throughout its history, the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning has received generous support from alumni, friends and industry partners to create opportunities for our brightest students and early career researchers in architecture, landscape architecture, property, construction and urban planning and design.

By supporting this community, you are making a long term investment in the educational, creative, environmental and economic health of professions engaged with the built environment for future generations.

We are committed to continuing this tradition of providing opportunities to our early career research staff and students with outstanding potential, through scholarships, early career research grants and travelling stipends. Our aspiration is to see our graduates emerge as tomorrow's industry leaders that will have a very real and positive impact on the way in which we all engage with the built environment.

**Your support will help us to continue
to shape the future of our professions.**

YES! I want to support the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne through my gift of:

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Dean's Honours Awards 2009: Recognizing Student and Teaching Excellence and Innovation

LOUISA RAGAS

On Thursday May 20, 2010 the Faculty of Architecture, Building & Planning celebrated the outstanding academic achievements of students and teaching staff at the annual Dean's Honours Awards. It was a spirited evening, an occasion where we could reflect on the inspiring work and world-class calibre of our students and academic staff. The Dean's Awards have a strong tradition, with many recipients remaining long term friends of the Faculty.

Numerous awards were presented on the night by Professor Tom Kvan to Bachelor of Environments and MSD students for outstanding academic merit, each of whom made the coveted Dean's Honours List.

In addition, over 20 students were recognised for their achievements in a particular subject or discipline. Design, practice, construction and research excellence were among the attributes that characterised this group, as well as a sophisticated awareness of sustainability issues.

This suite of awards is strongly supported by a range of benefactors including alumni, parents, industry and peak bodies, reflecting the Faculty's enduring connection with our community. These talented individuals represent our next generation of leading architects, landscape architects, property and construction professionals, urban planners and designers – people who will shape and influence our habitable environment. Details of the awards supported by our community are outlined below:

ARCHITECTURE

Ernest Fooks Memorial Award:
Joanne Nataprawira

Nell Norris Scholarship: Fenella Webster

RAIA/Bates Smart Graduate Prize:
Fairley Batch

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

The Neil Fraser Award for Sustainable Landscape Design: Yee-Yan Flora, Lau Timothy Burt

AECOM Australia Prize for Urban Design and Landscape Architecture:
Gauri Vohra

PROPERTY AND CONSTRUCTION

Australian Institute of Building Prize:
Priscilla Barrington

Australian Property Institute: Charlene Shin Yen Liao

Brookfield Multiplex Prize: Bronwyn Boote

Chartered Institute of Building Award (UG): Priscilla Barrington

Chartered Institute of Building Award (PG Coursework): Catriona Smith

Corenet Global Corporate Real Estate (CRE) Award: Andrew Bambrook

Hansen Yuncken Prize: Thomas Dean

Harry Wexler AIQS Prize: Matthias Wobbe

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Prize: Excellence in Property: Charbel Youssef

Excellence in Quantity Surveying (must have completed the subject 'Construction Cost Planning'): Melissa Evans

URBAN PLANNING

Ledgar Prize in Urban Planning:
Erin Baden-Smith

DesignInc prize: Hannah Thambiayah

A number of Faculty Research Awards were also awarded to high achieving students:

The Nell Norris Fellowship:
Jennifer Mitchelhill

Henry and Rachael Ackman Travelling Scholarship: Daniel Kumnick

Dean's Prize for Published Postgraduate Research - Equal First Prize: Peter Lawther and Ilan Wiesel

Equal Second Prize - Crystal Legacy, Ben Cleveland and Ken Woodman

John Grice Award: Inger Mewburn and Honorable Mention to Jennifer Mitchelhill

In addition to the numerous awards presented to students, staff were also recognised for their achievements in creating and facilitating innovative curriculum, teaching and environments.

Dr Dominique Hes received a MSD Teaching Excellence Award for her subject *Regenerating Buildings*; Mr Sebastian Immaraj received a ABP Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award and ABP Sessional Teaching Excellence Award for excellence in teaching; Dr David O'Brien and Mr Hamish Hill were presented with a ABP Teaching Innovation Award for their MSD Indigenous housing studio 'Bower09'; and Dr Siqing Chen was awarded the Graham Treloar Fellowship for Early Career Researchers.

The Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning gratefully acknowledges the benefactors of the 2009 prizes and awards:

Mrs Noemi Fooks
Alasdair and Jenny Fraser
Australian Institute of Building
Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors
Australian Property Institute
Bates Smart Pty Ltd
Brookfield Multiplex Construction Pty Ltd
Chartered Institute of Building
CoreNet Global (Australian Chapters)
DesignInc Melbourne Pty Ltd
Graham Treloar Fellowship
Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd
Royal Australian Institute of Architects
Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors

From the Faculty

WELCOME

Barrie Shelton recently joined us to take up the position of Associate Professor in Urban Design. Prior to this appointment, Barrie was Senior Lecturer and Coordinator of the Urban Design Program at the University of Sydney, a position he held since 2002. Other recent members to the Faculty are: **Dermot McGeown**, Senior Lecturer in Property, who joins us from RMIT; and **Dr Heike Rahmann**, Lecturer in Landscape Architecture, who previously worked at the University of Adelaide.

EXHIBITIONS, EXPEDITIONS AND LECTURES

The Faculty presented a number of intriguing exhibitions over the late autumn/winter period. **Mould City** by Colony Collective – one of the ABP staff-led projects to be selected for exhibition in the Venice Architecture Biennale - occupied the Wunderlich Gallery in May. The Colony Collective team consists of: Peter Raisbeck, Nicola Dovey, Simon Wollan, Madeleine Beech and Jono Brener. Using mould as a central and pervasive motif, this evocative installation explored how our urban systems will expand and become more organic in the future.

The **Headspace 1** exhibition in June represented an exploratory process that fused together hand-drawn sketches, clay models, three-dimensional computer modelling and full-scale fabrication of experimental headwear. It was an elegant, white installation which profiled the outcomes of 'Virtual Environments' - a first-year constituent of the Bachelor of Environments degree.

A unique exhibition - **Rare French Books on Architecture and Building from the collections of the Osbert Lancaster**

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Janet McGaw** and **Anoma Pieris**, who headed up the team who coordinated the **Practices, Processes and Politics of Indigenous Place-making** symposium held in the Faculty in June. The symposium explored collaborative, cross-cultural place-making practice and the lessons they offer in relation to creating a Victorian Indigenous Cultural Education and Knowledge Centre in Melbourne.

Congratulations to **Paolo Tombesi** for a successful outcome of the **35th Annual AUBEA Construction Management(s) Conference** held in the Faculty in July. The conference focused on the management of construction, understood in a very broad sense to incorporate any discipline that improves our ability to manage the industrial structure, the planning and production process, the distribution process, or the output of building.

Congratulations to **Jillian Wallis** who recently received a Universitas 21 fellowship, which will enable her to visit landscape architecture programs in three other Universitas 21 universities.

Memorial Bibliographic Institute - featured in the Wunderlich Gallery in late June. The Osbert Lancaster Memorial Bibliographic Institute collection ranges from historical works on architecture, like Henri Revoil's superbly engraved *Architecture Romane du Midi de la France*, to rare ephemera on pioneering systems of reinforced concrete published in the 1890s. Professor Miles Lewis, who coordinated the exhibition, presented a series of talks in the gallery.

Student work from the **MSD Painted Desert Travelling Studio** led by Andrew Saniga, occupied the gallery in July. The travelling studio, and by connection the installation-style exhibit, explored the relationships between design disciplines and the theoretical links between art, design, landscape and history.

Paul Walker, Janet McGaw, Stanislav Roudavski, Christine Phillips and **Ammon Beyerle** each presented at the RMIT symposium 'Writing Around the Kitchen Table: Critical Spatial Writing Practices' on 7 June. Professor Jane Rendell of the Bartlett School, UCL

Congratulations also go to **Justyna Karakiewicz** who was a joint runner-up in the recent **Austral Bricks Architectural Design Competition - 'Future of Brick'**. The winning team in the national competition included **Sarah Crowley**, who graduated from ABP last year, and a Commended Entry went to alumn **Madeleine Beech**, in the Student Winner category.

Two of our alumni were acknowledged in July for their contribution to the revitalisation of the Yarra River precinct. *Transforming the Yarra*, a multimedia walking tour focusing on the transformation of the Yarra since the 1980s, celebrates the visionary urban planning of **Professor The Honourable Evan Walker AO** (Minister for Planning & Environment from 1982-1986) and Professor **David Yenken AO** (Secretary of the Minister for Planning & Environment from 1982-1987). Mr Walker was Dean of the Faculty and Mr Yenken was Head of the School of Environmental Planning. The tour, launched by Premier John Brumby on Tuesday, is available as an iPhone app and can be downloaded free from the iTunes store.

was the keynote. Professor Rendell also presented the following day at the **3rd Spaces seminar** hosted in the Faculty by **Janet McGaw** and **Anoma Pieris**.

On 24 May, **Philip Goad** was guest speaker at the launch of artist Raafat Ishak's exhibition *Recipes for aversion and strategy. Work in progress #6* at the Ian Potter Museum of Art. **Raafat Ishak** was briefly an ABP student undertaking graduate studies in architectural history and conservation.

In late May, **Catherin Bull** joined a team of international landscape architectural instructors at Tongji University to lead the 3-day International Student Charette in Suzhou China, which preceded the 47th World Congress of the International Federation of Landscape Architects. Catherin also recently travelled to Paris to Chair a progress meeting of the OECD Global Science Forum initiative led by the Australian Government delegation, on the topic Urban Systems Modelling (Workshop Melbourne Jan/Feb 2011).

Image Captions:

Cover: Bower Studio Jingyi Tan
Page 02-03: David O'Brien
Page 04: Jingyi Tan

Page 06: George Stavrios
Page 06-07: Jingyi Tan and Hamish Hill
Page 08-09: Cities Alliance
Page 10-11: Mexico Studio Phuong Le

Page 12: Joe Vittorio
Page 16: Michael Blythe
Page 17: David Francis
Page 18: Siqing Chen

Kenn Fisher, a member of the International Panel of Experts advising the OECD's Centre for Effective Learning Environments, attended a two-day seminar in July in Paris on the EQES project - the Evaluation of Quality in Educational Spaces- with the second day focussing on advising on the complete 3 year Program of Work for CELE 2011-2013.

Clare Newton, Dominique Hes, Sue Wilks, Pippa Howard, Ben Cleveland, Ken Woodman, Neda Abassi, Lena Gan and **Namin Shin** all attended the **CEFPI Australasia Conference** in Perth in May. The Council of Educational Facility Planners is a professional association whose mission is improving the places where children learn. **Ben Cleveland** and **Neda Abassi** are to be congratulated for their roles in supporting this innovative conference.

UPCOMING EVENTS DEAN'S LECTURE SERIES 2010

The second event in the **2010 Dean's Lecture Series** profiled **William Cobbett**, Manager of Cities Alliance. In his lecture - *The challenges of scale in an urbanising world: land, services and citizenship* - William shared his perspective on the challenges presented by urbanisation, based on the experience of the Cities Alliance over the last 10 years. William also presented a fascinating lunchtime seminar on *A changing approach to international development assistance*.

We were also thrilled to host **Jane Wernick** (of Jane Wernick Associates, Consulting Engineers, London) in early August. Jane Wernick, one of the masterminds behind London's Millennium Wheel, gave an engaging Dean's Lecture- with the enigmatic title *Engineering Delight – collaborations on projects to make you smile* - on her recent engineering projects and consultative practice. Jane's award-winning firm is responsible for an extensive portfolio of buildings, bridges, sculptures

and furniture, for local and international clients. Recent projects include: Xstrata Treetop Walkway, Kew (with Marks Barfield Architects); The Möller Centre, Cambridge (with dsdha); St. Mary's School, Cambridge (with McAslan Architects); South London Gallery - new extension and education building (with 6a Architects); and BBC Scotland, Glasgow (with DCA).

Expanding our connections with Chile, the Faculty hosted a special lecture by Juan Pedro Sabbagh of Sabbagh Architects in May. **Sabbagh Architects** is one of the most influential architectural practices in Chile. One of their recent and iconic projects is the design of the Chilean Pavilion at the Shanghai Expo 2010 named 'Sprout of a New City'. Juan's lecture offered a fascinating insight into the firm's recent works which reflect their diverse technical skills and design processes.

GRANT SUCCESS

ABP ALUMNI RETROSPECTIVE SERIES – PHOOEY ARCHITECTS

Kinetic Bonds

Catherine Mosbach – Landscape Architect, Paris
5 October 2010, 7pm

Carrillo Gantner Theatre,
Basement, Sidney Myer Asia Centre,
The University of Melbourne

The iconographic montage of 'kinetic bonds' propose juxtapositions between project's documents and extracts of realities. They lead us to place ourselves in the position of one who does not know, and favor movement of seeing interlaced with movement of understanding. They introduce an image as material, a neither-here-nor-there, between fabrications that precede it and processes that extend beyond it. Its visibility requires that the interwoven layers of several time-spans be shown: the short-span of production which threads and commands the taking of form; the long-span of accumulation which transforms everything even as it perpetrates its memory.

For full details and to register visit:
<http://www.msd.unimelb.edu.au/>
www.msd.unimelb.edu.au

In June the Australian Research Council (ARC) announced the results for applications to the second round of Linkage Projects for 2010. Congratulations to three Faculty of Architecture, Building & Planning staff who have been successful in securing ARC Linkage Project grants – **Professor Kim Dovey, Dr Robert Crawford** and **Associate Professor Julie Willis**.

Congratulations to **Blair Gardiner** and his team, who have secured a University Knowledge Partnership Staff Project Grant. They have been awarded \$10,000 for their project titled *Gimme Shelter: Housing and support models for youth homelessness*.

Congratulations also go to **Clare Newton** and her **Smart Green Schools'** team who have been awarded a University Knowledge Partnership Excellence Award 2010. They have been given \$5,000 for their project *Smart Green Schools: Educational and Environmental Outcomes of Innovation in School Building Design*.

This second Alumni exhibition for 2010, profiles the practice and vision of another of our most prominent graduate architects – Peter Ho. Titled Phooey Architects: Upcycling, this installation-style exhibition, featuring projects printed onto recyclable carpet tiles, will occupy the Wunderlich Gallery throughout September. Please refer to the MSD website for exhibition dates and details in late August.



Atrium

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