



FACULTY OF  
ARCHITECTURE  
BUILDING &  
PLANNING

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# atrium



## CONCRETE GLASS STEEL

Hijas Kasturi, distinguished alumnus of the Faculty, launched an exhibition of highlights from his practice Hijas Kasturi Associates on 17 March/ →[read more](#)

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#### Editor's Note

Due to popular demand, Atrium will continue to be produced in hard copy format, with a PDF version available online at [www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/atrium](http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/atrium)

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# DEAN'S MESSAGE



We are very pleased to deliver to you the first edition of Atrium in 2008. This is a momentous year for the University of Melbourne and a notable one too

for the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning.

With the introduction of the Melbourne Model for education, we are redefining Australian educational opportunities and establishing a context in which to prepare students for successful contributions to an increasingly complex professional world. With the establishment of the Melbourne School of Design as our graduate school, we are emphasizing that graduate education is a particular experience and that we contribute to all our professions a creative and synthetic approach that is distinctive.

This Faculty has a long history of contribution to education and research in the professional fields of architecture, landscape architecture, property, construction and urban planning,

as well as notable contributions in related fields of history, conservation, urban design and workplace planning. There are more than 5,500 individuals around the world who call themselves ABP Alumni, among them some of the most prominent and influential architects, builders, designers and planners of the Twentieth Century.

This is a contribution which will continue; some of the most distinguished professional contributions of the first decade of this century have been made by our alumni. In February 2008 we admitted the first students in to our new graduate professional programs and announced the Melbourne School of Design to which all graduate students will be admitted for study. Undergraduates preparing for these Masters programs will enter the Bachelor of Environment in which they will gain a breadth of understanding of policy, technological, scientific and design strategies with which to address future opportunities.

While we prepare for the future, we also celebrate those continue to make significant contributions to our Faculty and community. In this issue of Atrium we bring you news of academic colleagues and alumni. As a Faculty, we are enormously proud of our graduates and want to build and maintain connections that extend beyond graduation. In addition to sharing our stories, we want to know about your own achievements, contributions and success.

Our interests span a wide range of interests and rather than spread ourselves thin in every issue we are choosing to focus. In this issue we are reporting significantly on the architectural community and in future issues this year we will devote attention to the other programs we

offer, urban planning, landscape architecture, property and construction.

You will read of accomplishments of several of our community in the following pages. For example, we recently welcomed Hijjas Kasturi to the Faculty to open an exhibition of his work in Malaysia. Over the decades since he graduated from ABP, Hijjas has led the development of the architectural profession in Malaysia and designed many of the most significant buildings in the country. We are very pleased that an alumnus of our Faculty, Budiman Hendropurnomo, Director of Denton Corker Marshall's offices in Jakarta was awarded recently a Commonwealth Australian Alumni Award in Indonesia for his contribution to PT Duta Cermat Mandiri and creative culture of Indonesia. We celebrate a distinguished colleague; Graham Brawn retired at the end of 2007 after nearly thirty years in the Faculty.

One of my priorities is to develop stronger links with our Alumni community and foster ongoing engagement with the faculty. I have recently appointed Alumni Coordinator, Melanie Schoo to work with me to strengthen our existing ties and develop framework to extend engagement with our Alumni. This magazine is an essential component of this communication but there are several others. We hope that the Faculty can continue to be of assistance to you through research, exhibitions or industry partnerships. We look forward to welcoming you back to the campus and showing you what we have been doing. **A**

**Professor Tom Kvan, Dean**

# FROM THE FACULTY

**Jianfei Zhu** was promoted to an Associate Professor on January 1 this year, having been successful in the promotion rounds last year. As always the panel rigorously review applications and carefully identified those who met the criteria.

**Miles Lewis** has received a grant of nearly \$63,000 from the Vera Moore Trust to digitise the Australian Architectural Index, so that it can be mounted on the Faculty web site and can be regularly updated. The index was originally created with funding from the Australian Heritage Commission and the Australian Research Council. It is at present held on about 60,000 cards and on microfiche, and the data will be newly entered from the cards onto a Filemaker Pro data base, under an agreement with Robin Grow of T/A Moderne Walking Tours.

The grant was obtained with the assistance of Neil Clerehan, architect.

**Philip Goad** and his co-editors, Dr Ann Stephen (Powerhouse Museum, Sydney) and Andrew McNamara (QUT) were the winners of the 2007 Art Association of Australia and New Zealand (AAANZ) Power Institute Prize for Best Book with their publication: *Modernism and Australia: Documents on Art, Design and Architecture, 1917-1967* (Miegunyah Press, 2006, reprinted 2007).

**Paul Mees** gave the opening address at the Garnaut Climate Change Review forum on transport, planning and the built environment in Perth on Tuesday 19th February, and appeared Tuesday 26 February's episode of the SBS 'Insight' program dealing with the effects of climate change on cities.

**Paul Carter** and **Emily Potter** traveled to the tiny town of Shelley in Victoria's far north east to make a presentation to a Community Drought Recovery Forum at the invitation of the Towong Shire. They spoke about their current research concerning place-making, creativity and community resilience in the context of the significant social suffering in the region that is the result of several years of drought.

**Philip Goad** gave a lecture entitled "Holiday Modern: 20th century domestic architecture and the Port Phillip Idiom" at the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery on Friday 8 February 2008 to coincide with the gallery's current exhibition 'Aspendale Beach: an artists' haven'.

**Dominique Hes** whose appointment as Lecturer was confirmed at the first meeting of the Faculty's Confirmation and Promotions Panel for 2008.

**Hermanta Doloi** is travelling to KL and Hong Kong to conduct corporate training in project risk management and project appraisal and evaluation to 60 professionals. Organised through the Applied Technology Group based in Singapore, this initiative promotes diversity of teaching in the Melbourne School of Design.

**Bharat Dave** visited Launceston on the invitation of RAlA Tasmania Chapter, where he delivered a talk titled 'Production of Digital Space' at the University of Tasmania another talk at RAlA Office in Hobart.

**Alex Selenitsch** has now submitted the final, bound copies of this thesis and will be graduating with his PhD soon. Alex's thesis is a milestone for us as it is the first PhD thesis submitted from this Faculty that explicitly incorporates creative works.

**Kevin O'Connor** has been successful in winning a grant from the Volvo Research and Educational Foundations to study 'The Impact of Freight Logistics for Urban Development and Sustainable Future Transport'. This is a very timely award given the current media focus on freight logistics with the commencement of channel dredging in Port Phillip Bay, and Kevin's work will no doubt contribute significantly to this debate as it unfolds. **A**

# Hijjas Kasturi visits the Melbourne School of Design



**Hijjas Kasturi, distinguished alumnus of the Faculty, launched an exhibition Concrete, Glass, Steel which showed highlights of his practice Hijjas Kasturi Associates (HKAS) in the Atrium of the Architecture building on Monday 17 March. In launching the exhibition he described the path he took from studying in Australia to being an academic in Malaysia and then setting up the successful practice of HKAS.**

Mr Kasturi then gave a public lecture titled 'In Search of Identity in Architecture' outlining significant buildings designed by HKAS. He categorized the development of the buildings by HKAS spanning Concrete - characterized by the initial buildings completed in Malaysia, followed by the Metal influenced designs of prize winning buildings in Riyadh, then the more recent Glass constructions.

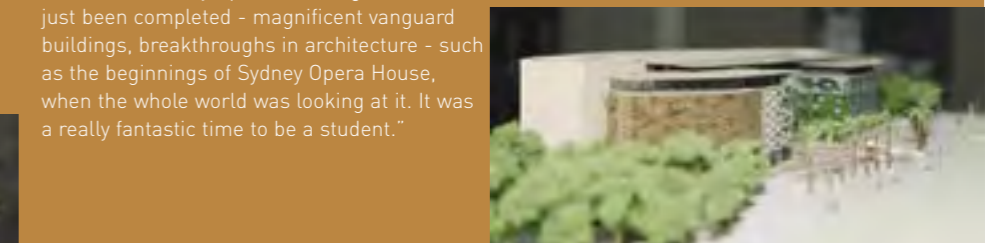
Hijjas Kasturi studied at the University of Adelaide and the University of Melbourne (Bachelor of Architecture 1965, Graduate Diploma of Town and Regional Planning 1966). "Those were the golden years of Australian architecture to me. The times of Robin Boyd, of Roy Grounds and Peter Muller. It was the time when the Olympic Swimming Pool had just been completed - magnificent vanguard buildings, breakthroughs in architecture - such as the beginnings of Sydney Opera House, when the whole world was looking at it. It was a really fantastic time to be a student."

He returned to Singapore in 1966, then moved to Malaysia in 1967, where he founded the School of Art and Architecture at MARA Institute of Technology. He went into partnership in 1969, and then formed the practice Hijjas Kasturi Associates (HKAS) in 1997.

Characterised by the major concerns of architecture, town planning and building, plus the arts-oriented influences of industrial design, graphic and textile design, and fine arts, the practice of HKAS has a unique vision.

Major buildings in Kuala Lumpur such as Menara Maybank (1989), Tabung Haji (1986), Putrajaya Convention Centre (2003) and the 4G11 Tower (2008) currently being built in Putrajaya are a small sample of the influential buildings designed by HKAS.

Mr Hijjas Kasturi's work is recognised internationally. In 1998 he received the Tokyo Creation Award and in 2001 the Malaysian Architect's Institute Gold Medal. He was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the Unversiti Malaya in 2005.



**Conversation with Kasturi** Deputy Dean and Director of the Melbourne School of Design, Professor Philip Goad spoke to Hijjas about his recollections of study at Melbourne and his thoughts on the industry. Visit: <http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au> to view this unique insight



# New Generation Bachelor of Environments

The Bachelor of Environments is a new and exciting program of study that reflects the changing demands and challenges of the world we live in.

The degree replicates the interdisciplinary nature of real-world projects, where built and natural environment professionals work together to bring projects to fruition. Only through innovative and integrated thinking, that will be an integral part of the Bachelor of Environments, will the solutions to current issues like sustainable urban growth and the protection of threatened natural resources become attainable within this generation.

A key feature of the Bachelor of Environments is its focus on providing a variety of learning experiences, including not only lectures and tutorial classes, but also design studios, field trips, laboratory sessions, site visits and workshops. For example, students in Designing Environments will take self-guided field trips, engaging in-depth with a specific site via a series of studio-based design projects. Students will be able to turn theory into action by engaging with real-world problems and community projects.

The Bachelor of Environments draws on the expertise of university academics who are at the forefront of research into key issues such as developing sustainable built environments, irrigation and sustainable energy, planning future cities (housing, transport and communities) climate change and sustainable forest management.



The degree program has been structured so that Students can keep a number of career and further study options open throughout.

### Fields of Study

In the Bachelor of Environments degree students select a major (comprising 9 subjects) and 3 elective subjects from the following fields of study:

- Architecture
- Civil (Engineering) Systems
- Construction
- Environmental Geographies, Politics & Cultures
- Environmental Science
- Geomatics
- Landscape Architecture
- Landscape Management
- Physical (Environmental Engineering) Systems
- Property
- Urban Design

Professional development degrees in Building Surveying, Property Valuation, Urban Design, Workplace Planning and Design, and a general program in Planning and Design will seek to strengthen professional knowledge in specialised and advanced practice through current research trends, new design methods & techniques, multi-disciplinary approaches, industry and research collaboration.

Research degrees are also available. **A**

# Melbourne School of Design



In 2008, the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning launches the Melbourne School of Design

(MSD), the first school in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region to offer graduate level programs across all of the built environment disciplines. The School's foundation in 2008 is the next step in the evolution of graduate level studies in the built environment at the University of Melbourne, which began more than ninety-five years ago with the formation in 1919 of the Melbourne University Architectural Atelier (MUA).

The Melbourne School of Design offers professional programs in architecture, construction management, landscape architecture, property, and urban planning. Post-professional programs are offered in urban design, property valuation, building surveying, digital media, heritage and conservation, and workplace planning and design.

Key to each of these graduate programs is a focus on global urbanization in all of its forms, and especially in terms of contemporary engagement with the design, technologies, creation, and management of concentrations of habitation, and at the complete ranges of scales, from humble shelter to the phenomenon of the megalopolis. The shaping of and subsequent demands on the environment from urban centres and peripheries, fringe settlements and landscapes form a core part of this critical inquiry. Sustainability, climate change and the consumption of resources are key parameters for design within the urban and landscape environments of the future.

The School of Design is a collaborative, interdisciplinary and dynamic community of students, academics and design professionals committed to engagement with the full complexity of the contemporary built environment. The aim is to design for the future, to produce leading scholars and practitioners able to work together, able to critically reflect and act on social, ethical, and ecological demands, and thus able to propose better, more aesthetic and more appropriate urban and landscape futures.

A key strategy and strength of the School is its location in Melbourne, Australia. The city becomes not just a laboratory for local insight but also the means for a dialogue with other regional and global sites, between the 'real' and the 'theoretical'. It becomes a discursive tool for discovery, comparison and

Undergraduate	Professional	Post Professional	Higher Research
Bachelor of Environments Majors in: :: Architecture :: Construction :: Landscape Architecture :: Property :: Urban Design	:: Master of Architecture :: Master of Construction Management :: Master of Landscape Architecture :: Master of Property :: Master of Urban Planning	:: Building Surveying :: Planning and Design :: Property Valuation :: Urban Design :: Workplace Planning and Design	:: Master of Philosophy :: Doctor of Philosophy

interaction. Poised between the burgeoning urban agglomerations of the Asia-Pacific and traditional notions of Western urbanism, on the periphery of Antipodean wilderness and itself a post-industrial landscape, a city of colonial beginnings and subsequent multi-cultural ethnicities, Melbourne is the ideal place to study analogous urban conditions. An annual program of national and offshore studios becomes the mechanism for enhancing this dialogue between various concentrations of habitation, their professions, their governments and their communities.

The centre of this endeavour is the design studio and its culture, where each design project is treated as an independent experiment on a research question. It is a culture of inquiry that permeates the rest of the School in graduate seminars, lectures, laboratories, individual research projects, centres, symposia, and publications. The whole School operates as a research laboratory.

In short, the School is research-led. It is located within the nation's top research university. Each program has a commitment to research-led teaching as well as professional training. The content, structure and intellectual basis of the curriculum all stress the necessity of knowing, analyzing and challenging the underlying history, premises, and future directions of the design professions. Students in these programs become not just accomplished practitioners in their respective disciplines, but also leaders and innovators.

The School is committed to a wide-ranging multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary approach that establishes the highest level of professional, technical, and creative expertise in each of its fields of study. Our range of degree programs enables students to focus their studies in one discipline while gaining a broader perspective from related fields. The School also provides opportunities for advanced study and research in these fields, leading to the PhD degree as preparation for careers in teaching and research. Through close interaction with academics and design professionals in small studios and graduate seminars, students gain experience in contemporary design issues and an in-depth understanding of theory and history, technology and professional practice.

The Graduate School is ultimately about the cultivation and experience of an articulate, engaged and collaborative design community. Our academic staff is international in profile and in person. They offer an unparalleled range of research and professional expertise, design philosophies and visions. Our students likewise represent a diverse range of experience, background and education. The School's perspective is global, its community of scholars local in their commitment to the advancement of a sustainable built environment. **A**

**Professor Philip Goad**  
Director, Melbourne School of Design



## EcoEdge2 Conference

The Faculty was closely involved in the EcoEdge2 Conference [www.cityedge.org.au](http://www.cityedge.org.au) by way of an exhibition of studio works which MSD students prepared.

The EcoEDGE 2 conference was the sixth conference hosted by the City of Melbourne since 1998 in the CityEDGE International Conference Series. The EcoEDGE 2 conference aimed to engage the world's leading sustainability experts in tackling the economic, aesthetic and ethical dimensions in making sustainable cities.

The topics showcased include green urban design; green urban energy systems; green housing; and green government.

Part of the conference included a charrette. This has proven to be a very popular workshop on the city's future with 90 participants from all over Australia including 10 graduate students from the faculty who presented their studio work from last semester to inform the charrette. These students were also interviewed and contributed to an SBS Insight program featuring panelists drawn from the speakers. The key stakeholders for this event are the City of Melbourne, Dept Infrastructure, Government Architect's Office, DSE(Urban Design) and Federation Square. **A**



The Arup's Charrette in progress



# Graham Brawn

## Celebration of a Career

Graham Brawn, BArch (NSW) MArch (Ill) FRAIA, Professor of Architecture, joined the University in 1980. He will be remembered for his ability to link the academy with practice and his outstanding contribution to the establishment of graduate programs for the advancement of Architectural practice.

Prior to assuming his position at The University Graham Brawn completed his BArch at The University of NSW. From 1966 - 1970 he continued his studies with the University of Illinois (MArch) and worked with major offices in Toronto, Chicago, Vancouver and San Francisco. Between 1970-71, Graham was the Vice President and General Manager of TEAG, The Environmental Analysis Group, Canada Limited. During this time, Graham led the team engaged to produce the detailed operational planning and brief for the Vancouver Superior Courts, later designed by Arthur Erickson.

For the next 9 years, and prior to his return to Australia, Graham lead Graham Brawn and Associates Limited (later Brawn Parsons Wood Planning Group) in Vancouver and Edmonton, Canada. This multi-disciplinary practice covered pre-design research and briefing, strategic service planning and campus master planning in the educational, adult corrections, courts and justice services, law enforcement, commercial, industrial, health and juvenile justice fields. The firm also worked in the areas of urban design, retail and commerce.

A parallel firm from 1978 -80, Graham Brawn Architect, practiced on specialist design projects. Through this latter firm Graham Brawn and his partner Tony Parsons were finalists, with Chris Waite of Sydney, in the international competition for the design of Parliament House, Canberra.

Through his own firms in Canada he was a principal of the teams responsible for: the planning of redevelopment of False Creek, 600 acres on the edge of the downtown of Vancouver, the urban design development plan for the parliamentary precinct of the capital city of British Columbia, and for the preliminary design of a major regional shopping centre in the Seattle area of Washington State, USA. For two years he was the part-time consultant director of the Planning, Programming and Property Acquisition Division of the Public Works Department of British Columbia (1974-75). For PWDBC he established what was in effect one of the first strategic facility planning groups in North America.

Graham Brawn returned to Australia in 1980 to take up a chair of Architecture at The University of Melbourne. Since his return to Australia he has been Chairman of the Department of Architecture and Building, (1981-82) and acting Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Planning (1983). He was Chairman of the Board of Management of the Meat Market Craft Centre from 1984 - 1990, and has served on a number of Advisory Committees for the Victorian State Government.

At the University of Melbourne he was responsible for the introduction of the Master of Architecture degree in design, established Australia's first program in Facility Planning and Management, and is now introducing a new program in Workplace Planning and Design.

In 1992 Professor Brawn re-organized his relationship with the university to allow time to participate more in consulting and architectural practice. From 1993 to 1999 all his consulting work was done through the national practice of Spowers Architects.

With Spowers he provided specific advice in the fields of urban design, facilities planning, value management, pre-design coordination, design, design management and strategic planning. All the projects were of an innovative type wherein the architecture was expected to support changes in operational patterns and philosophy. During this time Professor Brawn was a co-designer and planner of the firm's Museum of Victoria submission in an international design competition. The design was chosen as one of the five finalists.

Since late 1999 Professor Brawn has been independent of direct association with any one firm, preferring to operate with a number of colleagues and firms. Over this most recent time he has continued in the expert role on the Victoria County Court Project; finished his role as project leader for the design development phase of Wolston Park Hospital; participated in the preliminary planning and design studies for the Northland Prison in NZ, and led a number of strategic planning and design studies for the

Magistrates, District and Supreme Courts of WA in Perth. He has also spoken at a national conference at Oxford University on the planning and design of the Thomas Embling Hospital, and in New Zealand on the challenges of new courthouse planning and design. He has been the courts architecture expert for the recent strategic evaluations of the proposed Supreme Court of Victoria.

In all his teaching and consulting, Graham Brawn's approach is that design is the act of moving from a current condition to a desired condition. He sees that there is the need to balance the values of the people driving the project with the expectations of the project's promoters and eventual users, with the special locational and economic conditions, and with changes that will be needed in the operational patterns and procedures needed to achieve the project's outcomes. The role of architecture is seen as giving shape, form and expression to the ideas that underpin the project.

Graham retires from the Faculty to read, research, write and practice architecture. His contribution and influence within the University, Faculty, Students and Industry will be appreciated and embraced for many generations. **A**



## Thank You

Graham - There is a vibrant community of thought around the ideas of people and workplace at University of Melbourne that would not have existed without your passion, your perseverance and your energy. From a personal perspective thank you for pushing me, challenging me and looking out for me personally and professionally. **A**

Peter Andrew  
BArch (Hons) 1990  
MPD (Facility Plan & Mgmt) 2000  
Managing Director  
DEGW Asia

## Joseph Toscano recalls

**I first met Graham Brawn in the Autumn of 1980. Along with my peers in fourth year Architecture studies, I was excited by the buzz around the faculty of the arrival of the new, trash-talking "American" professor. I found out first-hand, and soon enough, that the new professor was, in fact, a returned ex-pat Australian who had worked for a number of years in Canada.**

Graham was very different from the other tutors and lecturers with whom we had worked in the earlier years. I was fortunate to have Graham as my senior tutor for the first semester design studio, and this was the beginning of our professional association and friendship. Graham insisted in those studio sessions that we students continually explore the processes of design and, significantly for me, implored us to seek design outcomes from different and varied propositions. Design began to make sense to me and I felt that I was starting to control this important creative impulse.

Having completed my degree, I entered the professional workforce, and after a few years was attracted back to the University of Melbourne with the announcement of the new "Master of Architecture (by Design)" programme. I knew Graham was one of three people within the faculty responsible for setting up this new course. I started the Master's programme in its first year, 1987, one of its ten inaugural candidates. We completed an intensive six-month full-time study course where we worked directly with the three faculty academics and with professional practising architects who were brought in as mentors. The emphasis of the course clearly was to pursue our architectural design studies based on: academic research; interaction within the design studio; the context of the professional, practising architect. The second phase of the Master's programme was the work on our individual thesis, a mix of design outcomes (drawings) with a written exposition of our work. Again here I had Graham Brawn as my supervisor. I have memories of many visits to his office to review the work, of Graham's continual prodding and prompting of me to help me clarify my design hypothesis, and most significantly, to ensure that I understood the meanings and possible interpretations of the thesis, drawings and words. Graham was the first, real critic of my maturing design ideas. He helped me to appreciate that architectural design opportunities and outcomes can and should be presented as a rigorous and professional product, indeed the very nature of the work we do as practising architects.

Having successfully completed the masters programme in 1988 as its first graduate, I resumed full-time in the workforce and also took up a part-time tutoring position within the Architecture Department, primarily, I think, on Graham Brawn's recommendation. Through much of the 1990s I mixed professional work with tutoring and, of course, I often came in contact with Graham around the University.

It was always good to catch up for a chat; ours was a friendship based on a professional respect, with still some feeling of the student-teacher relationship. In the past few years, being away from university life, I've not seen Graham with any regularity, though we have bumped into each other a number of times in, of all places, the local hardware store. The last time we met I was sharing a coffee on campus with my son now well into his Arts course and roughly the same age as I was when I met Graham. Immediately Graham drew Nicholas into conversation, naturally and effortlessly - he's a great communicator with young students. Conversation is easy with Graham - I am always humbled by the keen interest he constantly shows in my professional work.

As Prof Brawn enters the next stage of life after Uni I wish him and his family all the very best. To Graham I extend my thanks for his help along the way. **A**

Joseph Toscano  
BArch (Hons) 1982  
MArch 1989  
Director  
DP Toscano, Architects

## Elliet Spring recalls

**The name Graham Brawn was familiar to me long before I had ever even heard his booming voice, with its international intonation, or seen his six-foot-something frame in the hallways of the Architecture Building. He was an almost mythical figure, and the whispers of his decision to teach in my final year created something of a frenzy amongst my peers.**

We were not disappointed when he presented his studio topic - his class was to design a Koori Magistrates court, which would begin with a semester of intense investigation. I was thrilled - this legendary professor was proposing a class about which I was passionate. I scribbled a large "1" beside Brawn, and crossed my fingers. The results were posted, and I was bitterly disappointed. I was determined though - I wrote to, called, and begged Professor Brawn until he finally succumbed, allowing his class to swell to include a gaggle of students, all as irritatingly relentless as myself.

Our class embarked on an incredible journey, which led us through the investigation of Indigenous culture, court planning and the role architecture might play in creating justice. Professor Brawn was an inspiring teacher, wise and constantly guiding us with his immense experience. At the same time, however, he would often remind us that he, too, was learning, that we were mapping new territory together.

While he was exceptional for his deeply intellectual, calm and supportive approach, it was this fundamental respect for his students which set him apart from other teachers, and allowed each student to thrive. **A**

Elliet Spring  
BDP (Arch) 2002  
BArch (Hons) 2004

# ALUMNI NEWS

## From the Alumni President

Assoc. Professor Peter Williams  
President, Alumni Association



**Busy as most Alumni are, in the fast lane of their professional lives, some may as yet not be completely aware that the academic**

**year 2008 has actually seen the Faculty proceed with the introduction of the new Bachelor of Environments degree together with new coursework masters degrees in the various professional disciplines. The "old" programs that we have all long been familiar with are currently being phased out and replaced by the new.**

As you can imagine, the Faculty has carefully prepared itself for this major renewal and is a very busy place indeed; to say that a cracking pace has been set in the process would strike most of us as something of an understatement. And while the new coursework programs are being rolled out research activities continue to expand with a string of important successes being achieved. All in all, all stops are out

and the organisation is abuzz with academic activity as never before.

While these developments are taking place, the Faculty has committed itself to building much stronger ties with its Alumni. We are clear that the time is right for a new approach to be positively fostered and given serious priority; this view is one that is fully endorsed by the Dean who is himself taking a direct personal interest in the Association and its activities. Supporting us is Melanie Schoo who joined us at the end of 2007 as Alumni Coordinator. Melanie possesses a diverse professional background in related work, she is very much a key part of the new approach and is herself ably supported by an impressive administrative team.

For those graduates who are not entirely clear as to what the term Alumnus actually means, the Collins Dictionary provides the following definition: chiefly u.s. a graduate of a school or college, etc. It is important to note however, that the University has very properly recently extended membership beyond this strict limitation to include academic and professional staff of 3 or more years standing as well as past students who have never actually completed an award program.

An analysis of the existing Alumni database of which you all form part (see table below) indicates a dynamic situation of much interest so far as evolution of the Faculty's four professional disciplines is concerned. I think many of you will be surprised, for instance, to see the dramatic rise in output of Property and Construction graduates in recent years. The truth is the Faculty has become one of very much more diverse interests than was the case not so very long ago.

Over the coming weeks and months with your help we intend to proceed with the development of a new strategy that I have already referred to. All concerned want this to be a success and as part of the process one of the things we are planning to do is to network directly with as many of you as possible to discover what you would like to see included or emphasized in the new strategy. Please think about forming some ideas in the lead up to us making contact but in any case if you would like to make

suggestions or simply discuss possibilities please do not hesitate to contact Melanie Schoo by phone, email, fax or post.

In the last issue of Atrium I extended a warm invitation to all of you to participate in activities at the University. For instance, Graham Brawn who retired from one of the Chairs of Architecture at the end of 2007 will be formally farewelled at a special function on April 22. Those who attended Hijjas Kasturi's recent presentation as one of Malaysia's leading architects experienced a fascinating insight into his Malaysian and international activities. Kasturi is of course a much celebrated Melbourne Alumnus. His was an evening not to be missed and I strongly encourage attendance at future faculty events! **A**

## Alumni in the News

**We are pleased to advise that several Alumni were honored at the recent Australia Day Awards**

**Leonard Spira**, OAM (BArch 1958) for service to music, particularly as a contributor to the early development of opera in Melbourne and through establishing and directing a range of musical groups in Sydney and the Noosa district.

**Robert Gillies**, OAM (BArch 1951) for service to the community, particularly through a range of roles with Rotary International.

**Dr John James**, OAM (BArch 1954) for service to architecture as a practitioner, educator and historian, particularly as a leading scholar on French Gothic architectural history.

**Mr Budiman Hoolan Hendropurnomo**, (BArch Hons 1982), Director of PT DCM Jakarta, was awarded the Australian Alumni Award for Creativity and Design on 16 February 2008 in recognition of his outstanding talent as an architect whose well-known buildings demonstrate his innovation and creativity. The Australian Alumni Awards is the major public event for 2008 at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta. It is designed to acknowledge the contributions to Indonesia made by tens of thousands of Indonesians who have studied at Australian schools, universities and technical colleges.

**Belinda Kerry's** (BArch 1994) recently formed architectural practice LEE&KERRY won a prize in 'The Shaping of a Capital City' International Ideas Competition for Reykjavik, Iceland. This latest competition success follows LEE & KERRY's winning entry in the Kakolanmäki Hill, 'International Urban Ideas Competition' Turku, Finland in 2005, jointly awarded equal first place with Finnish Architects Helin & Co. **A**

## 44th Year Reunion, First Year Class of '64 Faculty of Architecture Planning and Building, University of Melbourne

**They came from all over – Vietnam, Goa, Singapore, New Zealand, interstate – the first year class of '64 - to reconvene after 44 years at University House on Sunday March 9. Around 55 of us attended, some with partners, from a starting class of around 150.**

We had decided at the last reunion on 1997 to overthrow convention and celebrate the starting year, rather than the conventional graduating year, because many of us took longer to finish than the statutory period while others (the smarter ones) took alternative career routes. It was a joyous occasion: fine food and wine, reminiscence, re-engaging with classmates dredged out of long-term memory, music, old black and white Revue movies, and speeches. To mark the architectural nature of the occasion, each table had a spectacular centerpiece: an illuminated representation of an iconic tall building. These were raffled off during the evening and 9 lucky winners took them home.

Tom Kvan and Justyna Karakiewicz represented the Faculty and Tom spoke to the group about the new curriculum, plans for the future and warmly invited the alumnae to participate in its activities. Hugh O'Neill, our First Year Design Master, gave a virtuoso speech with his characteristic non-linear structure, using the last 3 days of his diary as a launching pad for a broad riff covering the then and now, all corners



The Commencing Class of 1964. Photo taken by John Gollings

of the globe, the living and the dead and, above all, the connectedness of things. Jeff Turnbull, a Design Tutor and our first Architects' Revue Director, delivered a clever performance piece which, in its architecture, resembled an Escher drawing. Towards the end of the evening, the revelers danced to the live anthems of the mid to late sixties from Dr Rock, a funky sexagenarian rock'n'roll band featuring the drumming of Leon Fink, a '64 alumnus.

Of those who pursued architecture, planning or building, some entered academia, others in practice; some in the public sector, others in the private; some in Australia, others overseas. Some, like Maggie Edmonds, Greg Burgess,

Daniel Teo and Ken Ko have achieved national and international prominence. Of those who pursued other careers, many are involved in the performing or visual arts, in practice or administration. Some, like John Gollings, are prominent in their field. The diaspora of the this year covering such a broad sweep is testament to the effectiveness of the education of those early years at Melbourne University. **A**

**Anthony Styant-Browne**  
BArch 1971

## Vale

### Blanche Merz

**The Faculty, along with former staff and students were saddened by the death of Blanche Merz, Lecturer and Senior Lecturer since 1964, and Senior Associate since 1985 on August 14 2007, aged 86.**

Blanche Merz was a Northcote girl and a scholar of excellence at both University High School and The University of Melbourne. She would have preferred to take medicine instead of maths and physics but her family thought teaching would be more suitable. She did not take up the place offered by the Faculty of Medicine. It was probably the last time she deferred to her father's will.

Blanche graduated Bachelor of Science with Physics and Pure Maths in 1939, one of four women among sixty in the year. She also took a Diploma of Education and taught in various schools before traveling to Europe in 1948 where she taught in Glasgow and London and attended peace congresses in Eastern Europe before being married by the "Red Dean" to Kurt Merz, a refugee from Austria, in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral. They met when he was studying Philosophy and Law at Melbourne.

Together they had two children, their son, Martyn has followed a remarkable career in manufacturing in China, and daughter, Mischa who took part in Architecture Revue productions at an early age, later practiced and published in the field of women's boxing.

Blanche is well remembered as a teacher at Mount Scopus, Merton Hall and St Catherine's schools before joining the Faculty to help in developing courses in maths and environmental sciences during the 1960s. These began under

the direction of Professor Brian Lewis with Elizabeth and Alan Coldicutt.

During the 1970's she became an acknowledged expert in the physics of light and colour. Blanche was very active in the Colour Society of Australia and the Illuminating Engineers Society. Her last lecture was delivered in 2003.

Blanche is remembered for her humanity and great patience in assisting students and associates with theoretical insights as well as directions for living. **A**

**Submitted by Senior Fellow of the Faculty, Hugh O'Neill**  
BArch 1956  
FRAIA

Architecture Building and Planning Alumni Profile (by graduating year and discipline)						
Graduation Year	Total (numbers)	Total (%)	Architecture	Property & Construction	Landscape	Urban Planning
2006 -	890	15.7%	416	255	89	130
2001 - 2005	1590	28.0%	903	350	126	211
1996 - 2000	861	15.2%	398	182	36	245
1991 - 1995	492	8.7%	85	67	32	308
1986 - 1990	325	5.7%	154	38	42	91
1981 - 1985	366	6.5%	210	52	22	82
1976 - 1980	294	5.2%	152	37	3	102
1971 - 1975	318	5.6%	251	19	0	48
1966 - 1970	223	3.9%	200	8	0	15
1961 - 1965	131	2.3%	124	3	0	4
1956 - 1960	65	1.1%	61	0	1	3
1951 - 1955	62	1.1%	57	0	0	5
1946 - 1950	25	0.4%	25	0	0	0
pre 1945	1	0.0%	1	0	0	0
Unknown	31	0.5%	25	0	5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5674</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3062</b>	<b>1011</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>1245</b>

# Songs, Skits, Sketches, Quickies and Ballet

Dr Jeffrey Turnbull's recollections of the Archi Revue

**1948 was the first performance and the revue continued to 1953. In 1956 when Jeff was in 2nd year, he along with Rosemary Eggleston and Rita Avdiev organised a meeting and resurrected the student club with Jeff as President, Rosemary as Treasurer and Rita as Secretary. The revue became a way to make the club solvent.**

The first revues of this period were held at lunchtime and an entrance fee of two shillings covered the costs of mounting the show. In 1958 the Revue moved to an evening timeslot running every year until 1987. From 1960 to 1968 audio recordings were made. The Revues were held in the Union Theatre until it was refitted for CinemaScope then moved to the Prince Philip Theatre.

The ethos behind the Revue was that the whole school participated. This was at a time when the school was much smaller and involvement easier to organise. The Revue consisted of many types of performances lampooning current political, architectural or faculty issues of the time as well as popular film and TV shows through sketches, skits, songs, quickies and ballet.

The students who were naturals at acting and performing developed sketches to present to the director and in consultation with the group encouraged further development. It was a lengthy process to get a sketch in the Revue and sometimes it would go through the whole development stage and not make it to performance. Another popular item were Quickies—short visual sketches which would give the stage crew a chance to change sets.

One Revue saw students creating a script around the controversy related to the National Gallery of Victoria design with Roy Grounds elbowing out Robin Boyd and Frederick Romberg. Eric Eastbrook (played by Jeff Turnbull) interviewed Roy Grunts (Clive Fredman) and Robbin Boyd (Robin Cuming) around a model of the art gallery, the skit parodying the architectural posturing of the time.

The Ballets were dance pieces designed by Glen Brady and then Sonny Chan who were outstanding choreographers. The group would choose music to generate ideas and rehearsals would be held in the concourse creating palpable enthusiasm for the shows.

Each Revue would begin with the national anthem - which would come in for some tweaking. One year students were lowered from

the lighting beams in plastic raincoats and another year a student, Niels Hutchison, playing an upright piano, was raised from the orchestra pit. The audience's reaction to a range of 'anthems' would incite further hilarity from the cast. A short student-made film would be shown just before interval.

The sets for the productions were incredible. Bill Mitchell designed beautiful staging in 1964 which lit wonderfully, "he would just do them!" said Jeff. Peter Rowe was a marvellous stage manager.

Jeff Turnbull was involved in the Revue from 1956 to 1961. He directed the Revue in 1964 and co-directed in 1965 and 1968 with Darrell Wardle. He last directed the Revue in 1971 and 1972. Notable performers who went on to pursue careers in comedy and acting include Alan Hopgood who was an excellent stage manager, Sue Ingleton, Rod Quantock, Steve Blackburn, Alan Pentland and Geoff Brooks.

The Revue's demise after 1987 occurred at a time when student numbers started to increase and industry requirements made it difficult to devote time to it. It is sadly missed. **A**

**Postscript. A double cd of 11 of the Archi Revue films was compiled for the recent 1964 reunion. The films include from 'Mouldies' from 1953 to 'Waltzing Matilda'. "We would like to acknowledge Jeff as the film actor of a thousand casts - the Jeffrey Turnbull who appeared in more Revue Films than anyone else IN THE WORLD. Like Caruso they couldn't retire him." - Peter Jones**



## Share your stories

The Faculty would like to celebrate the shared memories of its Alumni as students and promote their success and achievements post-graduation. If you have stories or photos from your time as a student, teacher or staff member or would like to share your achievements with other Alumni and friends of the Faculty, please contact the Alumni Coordinator Melanie Schoo at [mschoo@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:mschoo@unimelb.edu.au)

Left (top) - Rod Quantock

Left (bottom) - Dr Jeffrey Turnbull BArch 1961  
G/Dip Town & Reg. Planning 1962  
PhD Arch & Plan 2004

Right (top) -Ted Baillieu, MLA  
BArch 1978

Right (middle) L-R: Peter Crichton, Grant Marani BArch 1979, Norman Tandy, John Nicholson BArch 1974

Right (bottom) L-R: Peter Crichton, John Nicholson BArch 1974

Standing: Simon Thornton BArch 1978, Martin Grimwade, Joe Longo. Seated: Norman Tandy, Trevor Henshaw BArch 1979



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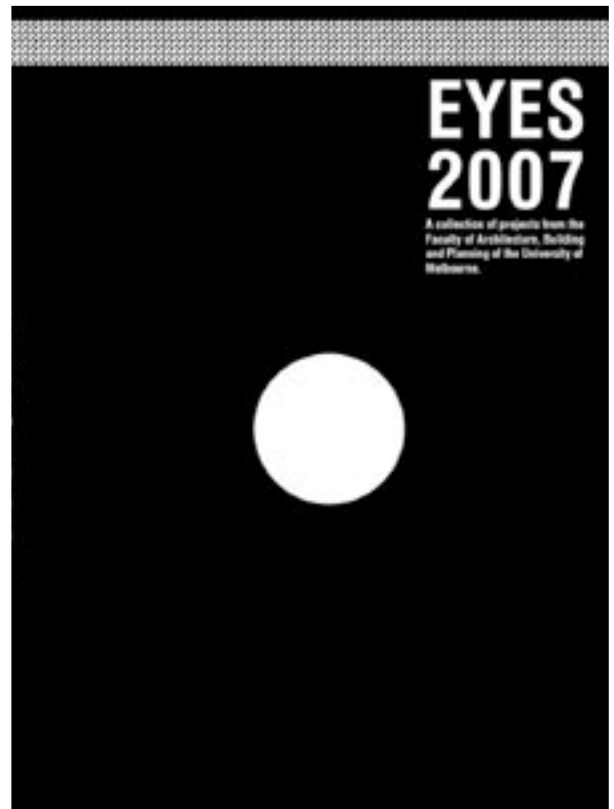
# EYES 2007

This edition of EYES is the thirteenth in the series. Established in 1995, the annual publication is an opportunity to summarise all work of a year in the Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning, hence the name of the publication: Everyone's Year End Show.

Over these thirteen years the Faculty has changed and this change will continue, the value of such an annual encapsulation of achievements and production is therefore of enormous value and considerable importance. The professions and discipline areas into which we graduate students have changed; the practice of architecture or urban planning, for example, is not exactly what it was those years ago when the first issue was published.

What has not changed in these years is the complexity and richness of the work produced. The fields in which we learn and research continue to be tremendously varied, ranging from conceptual explorations to data intense analysis or closely argued writings.

In this issue we are very pleased to present work from across the Faculty and include work by students and staff from each of the discipline areas of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Property & Construction and Urban Planning. We have organized the work around five themes reflecting the research strengths of the Faculty, namely Asia-Pacific Modernities: History and Social Critique; Design, Technologies and Practice; Future Cities: Housing, Transport and Communities; and Sustainable Built Environment. Reflecting the nature of academic and professional engagement, there is work by individuals and work from teams, including those consisting of local and international collaborators. Within each of these sections the work illustrates the richness in breadth and depth undertaken by staff and students, including studios, field work and workshops, presented by means of drawings, photographs and essays.



The 2007 edition EYES is now available on-line from the University Bookshop for \$30 plus postage and handling:  
[www.bookshop.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.bookshop.unimelb.edu.au) **A**

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