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Visiting Dean from China’s Zhejiang University

Late last year, Professor Yue Wu, the Dean of Architecture from Zhejiang University (ZJU) in Hangzhou visited ALVA to further strengthen relationships between the institutions. UWA has significant links with this institution and the visit came as a result of an earlier trip to China by AUDRC Director, Professor Joerg Baumeister. Research and future opportunities for students from both universities were discussed by Professors Baumeister and Wu and ALVA Dean Professor Simon Anderson. Professor Wu was educated at Southeast and Harvard universities and has recently taken up his appointment after moving from his own very successful architectural practice in Shanghai.

PhD Student from China

ALVA welcomes Xiaoyu Luo, a visiting Chinese Scholarship Council PhD student from the College of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Zhejiang University, China. She is interested in the research of low carbon village plan and rural house design. Research on carbon emissions in Chinese villages and Australian small towns will be done during her 7 months study at UWA.

Out and about

PhD student Isabel Rousset has won a

Architecture 50 UWA

This year formally marks 50 years of Architecture at UWA with the first meeting of an interim Faculty of Architecture having taken place on 26 May 1965 with Foundation Professor of Architecture Gordon Stephenson as Dean. In recognition of the semi-centennial ALVA is conduction a number of events and projects throughout 2015 including:

- A major forum for all alumni and current students on the topic of Architecture - The Next 50 Years to be held at the Octagon Theatre on the evening of 26 May 2015
- Reunion functions for alumni of each of the five decades of Architecture at UWA
- A retrospective exhibition of the work of our Architecture alumni
- A major publication on the evolution of architectural education at UWA and internationally

For more details or if you'd like to be involved please contact our Faculty Development Officer, Hannah McAll at hannah.mcall@uwa.edu.au

ALVA Team Shortlisted for Guggenheim Helsinki Design Competition

A team from ALVA are among six groups to have their submission shortlisted in the international architectural competition to design the proposed Guggenheim museum in Helsinki, Finland.

An independent, 11-member jury unanimously selected six concept designs as finalists from 1715 anonymous submissions.

ALVA Dean, Professor Simon Anderson, said the UWA team’s success was a truly prestigious achievement, given that the Guggenheim organisation had only ever used international architects Frank Lloyd Wright and Frank Gehry for its museums in New York, Bilbao and Abu Dhabi.

The UWA ALVA team comprises:
was listed in the Top 5 Beach Houses this year.

Top 5 Houses of 2014
Margaret River was listed in ArchitectureAU's top 5 listings. The award winning Karri Loop House in Margaret River was listed in ArchitectureAU Top 5 Houses of 2014 and the House in Noosa was listed in the Top 5 Beach Houses.

ALVA Staff receive recognition from students
Three ALVA staff members, Associate Dean Sophie Giles, Associate Professor Dr Fernando Jerez and Senior Technician Graeme Warburton, were awarded an inaugural UWA Student Guild Students’ Choice Award.

The UWA Student Guild Education Council created this award in 2014 to give students a mechanism to acknowledge individuals who have positively contributed to their teaching and learning experience at UWA. The award reflects the recipients’ efforts to maximise student engagement, a strong commitment to teaching and learning, and enthusiasm shown in their field.

Newly commencing ALVA Communications Officer Elizabeth Michael also received an award for her work at Student Support Services.

New Staff Appointments
Stephanie Reisch, Visual Arts
ALVA welcomes Stephanie Reisch to Visual Arts. Stephanie is a professional artist with a multidisciplinary approach working between painting, drawing, sound and sculpture. Born in Luxemburg, Stephanie completed a postgraduate MFA degree in 2014 (after undergraduate studies at Curtin University and UWA) and is represented by Linton & Kay Contemporary in Perth. She has contributed in a sessional capacity across several units in the Faculty for some time - her coordination of the Transdisciplinary Practices unit this semester and the first year Art of Drawing next semester. The staff and students of Visual Arts look forward to Stephanie’s continuing contribution this year.

Principal authors: Dr Fernando Jerez, Associate Professor ALVA UWA, Director SMAR Architecture Design; Belen Perez de Juan, Teaching Assistant ALVA UWA, Co-Director SMAR Architecture Design
Student team: Bradley Millis, Amber Martin, Michael Thorpe and Charlie Boman
 Renders: Mark Parsons
Additional help: Tatiana Joannides and Longsu He.

Both Fernando and Belen have begun working on Stage Two of the competition. This includes a recent visit to the proposed site with the other finalists to develop their ideas for final submission in April 2015. The winner will be announced in June 2015 and will be awarded a prize of €100,000, with the five runners-up each receiving €55,000.

You can read more about Stage Two of the competition and the six finalist profiles, or visit the official Guggenheim Helsinki Design Competition website.

Future Cities
Dr Julian Bolleter from ALVA’s Australian Urban Design Research Centre (AUDRC), together with other leading urban development experts, was featured in an ABC Catalyst Programme on the future of urban development in Australia. With soaring populations, how will we keep our cities liveable? And what will the city of tomorrow look like? Catalyst reporter, Anja Taylor explores some innovative ideas to enhance our future cities.

If you missed the programme, it is definitely worth a look.

Future Cities, Episode 21, 4th December 2014

Sandra Donovan Sound Shell Competition Winners
Last year eight teams comprising UWA architecture staff and students entered a competition to design the Sandra Donovan Sound Shell - named after the late Manjimup piano teacher. Run by the Warren Arts Council, the original brief asked for a design that provides a unique statement and reflects its location within the Manjimup Timber and Heritage Park.

The winning team was headed by ALVA Associate (Education) Dean Sophie Giles and included students - Joshua Cobb-Diamond, Haydn Ward, Mitch Cook. According to ALVA’s Dean and Competition Chair Professor Simon Anderson, “It came down to two designs in the end with Sophie’s design chosen by the Jury because it was found to be more iconic with a massive roof cantilever and it would cater well for different events and function types.” “Every year we help community groups with projects like this because it gives our students the opportunity to work with staff members in a professional setting.”

Once money has been raised for the project, the winning design and a cost estimate will be presented to Manjimup Shire Council. Warren Arts Council member, Mr Alan Lloyd said “We will be fundraising through raffles, grant applications and events like The Big Hoo Haa”. The sound shell will provide a facility for community events and will save on the cost of installing and dismantling stages.
ALVA’s New Premises

ALVA has been allocated new space in the Education Building and the Conference Building, both adjacent to the Faculty. The new space in Education will house Masters students from Architecture and Landscape and includes 5 large studios and a seminar and function room with a generous balcony.

The Conference Building will be dedicated to undergraduate Design students enrolled in the new Fine Arts major, in a series of small studios.

The relocation of the Architecture Masters students from the Claremont campus comes as the Faculty introduces the new masters courses and we are very pleased to have the students back at ALVA.

Significant Job Growth in Design and Architecture

Data released by the online jobs website Seek shows the jobs market for architecture and design had significantly largest growth over other sectors in 2014. The new data comes as the Australian Bureau of Statistics announces an unexpected fall in the national unemployment rate in December 2014. Read more.

Upcoming exhibitions at the Cullity Gallery

Harry Seidler - Painting Toward Architecture Opening night: Monday 23 March Dates: Mon 23 March – Wed 15 April 2015

New Works Exhibition

WA artists, Andy Quilty and ALVA Lecturer Stephanie Reisch, will be exhibiting at Margaret River Gallery along with 2014 Black Swan Portraiture Prize winner, Iain Dean. The exhibition presents a diverse body of new works between the traditions of drawing, painting and ceramics. Sharing a distinctly primal approach to mark making, each artist explores individual concerns whilst examining broader notions of representation and abstraction within contemporary practice.

The show titled New Works opens Saturday 4 April 2015 and runs for 3 weeks. Quilty and Reisch will also be delivering floor talks and workshops on 18 and 19 April. Please contact Margaret River Gallery for more details on (08) 9757 2729

Recent PhD Completions

Our congratulations go to the following graduates who have recently completed their PhDs:

• Cameron Ironside – Visual Art Many Worlds: The Ontology of the Moving Image in the Digital Age

When in Milan...

Twenty four architecture students from third, fourth
A Comparative Study of the Swedish and Australian Timber Construction Sectors Leading to the Development of a Prefabricated Parallel Laminated Timber Wall System

New forms of Public Open Space in the City of Jeddah

now been running for more than a decade and this year the brief called for a design for the proposed relocation of the Brera Arts Academy to a site previously used as a Military barracks.

Students worked on an urban scale proposal and selected one of the buildings to develop at an architectural scale. The projects included designs for departmental buildings, a library, exhibition spaces and large auditorium. Two study tours were also organised for students to visit important architectural works by Le Corbusier, Carlo Scarpa, Peter Zumthor, SANAA, Zaha Hadid, Herzog and De Meuron, Frank Gehry and more.

Olot: Unique Learning Experience

A selection of fourth and fifth year ALVA students participated in a unique learning experience organized by Associate Professor Emiliano Roia: the Olot summer studio. The exclusivity of the experience lay in the fact that the studio was run in the beautiful and inspiring Espai Barberi, headquarters of the international multi-award winning practice, RCR Arquitectes. Students had the chance to engage in a professional environment where they learned principles of architecture and landscape recognised internationally for excellence in the field of design, and visited and experienced international award-winning buildings.

Within the beautiful volcanic area of the La Garrotxa region, students were challenged with a complex brief, the design of The Volcanoes Discovery Centre of La Garrotxa: The Epicentre. The outcome of this experience is well described in a letter RCR Arquitectes sent to ALVA Dean Simon Anderson: “We would like to thank ALVA for its presence in our office for the Summer Studio 2015. It has been a great pleasure to have its students and its staff between us. Their education and cordiality have been exemplary. We believe that cultural and geographic exchanges are rewarding for both parties and this experience has once again demonstrated this. The Epicentre, an exercise for our city and territory, has served as a subject of study for the students who have contributed with visions of great interest. Students demonstrated high level in design and in the use of the means of architecture representation”. RCR is now preparing a publication with all the students’ work.
Latest from Bali

The January 2015 Bali Studio involving twenty two students from study programs across UWA is now complete. It began with a Melukat blessing ceremony on January 6 and ran seamlessly until closure two weeks later.

According to the program's Coordinator, Assistant Professor Paul Trinidad, the new generation of students are very aware of their different study area backgrounds which make them even more motivated and competitive than ever before. This year's study program had eleven assessable elements which added to the competitive edge and expanded learning gradient.

Late in the program, the Australian Consul-General to Bali, Ms Majell Hind met all of the students on the Mo Bau Awards evening. She made time to interact and encourage all members of the group with their interest in Bali and Indonesia. The Mo Bau Awards recognize outstanding achievement as well as a couple of fun categories. The evening rounds off the rigorous program and is becoming a central draw card to encourage great achievement among the students.

Another outcome of the Bali Studio 2015 is guest lecturers and internationally renowned artists Jango Pramatha and Made Wianta have agreed to visit ALVA during October for an exchange/residency. It is a major achievement to have artists of this stature visit the Faculty.

Farewell but not Goodbye

Charlie Mann announced his retirement from ALVA at the end of 2014. Although he has retired from full time employment, Charlie will continue to teach a Design studio and will carry on delivering his inimical teaching process to our students.

Charlie has taught design and architectural history with ALVA for the past 25 years. He came to UWA in 1990 and was first sighted cycling across Rottnest Island to meet a group of students, in the height of summer having left cold and wet London only the day before. Generations of students have learnt much from his exacting standards in the studio, his illuminating Architectural History lectures and the studies in the Key Texts units of the Bachelor of Architecture/Master of Architecture. A teacher’s legacy is in the work of their students, and here a good number of those works continue to adorn the school website as well as the walls of the Stardust Lounge: just how did those three Uccello’s get made in a pre-digital era?

Charlie studied architecture at Liverpool University followed by a MA in Architectural History at Essex University studying under Joseph Rykwert. From Essex he moved to London and began practicing and teaching at the Architectural Association School, establishing a reputation for excellence in teaching and dedication to the ‘Architectural Project’, as he termed it, under the Chairmanship of Alvin Boyarsky.

We hope Charlie will continue to teach Design at ALVA and we are delighted to have him continue as a significant member of the School.

Patrick Beale, Architecture Discipline Chair, February 2015.
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