In this issue:
Officer Woods recognised in recent Think Brick Awards
The ALVA House nears completion
Inaugural Bali Studio
Martumili Architectural Competition
Australia and the Indian Ocean
Vale Ruth Durack
The Sustainable Warburton Project
Australian Urban Design Research Centre news
Agreement of Collaboration with ISI
AffirmativeArchitecture Symposium

Officer Woods recognised in recent Think Brick Awards

Officer Woods were one of six architectural practices nationally, and the only practice from Western Australia, invited to compete for the About Face Award for Think Brick Australia.

Award participants were asked to envisage a future for the Australian suburb which embraces increased densities whilst accepting the established desire to engage with suburban life. The award was won by ARM (Aston Raggatt McDougall), with Officer Woods the only other awarded entry.

Practice directors Assistant Professor Jennie Officer and alumnus Trent Woods, worked on the highly commended proposal, along with recent ALVA graduates Jack Choi and Paul Empson, and current ALVA 5th year student Monja Johnstone.

MORQ talk in Rome
On 6 July 2011 the principals of MORQ architectural practice (ALVA academics Andrea Quagliola and Emiliano Roia and colleague Matteo Monteduro) were invited to speak at the Architecture Talks - Roma event hosted by the MAXXI museum (Museo Nazionale delle arti del XXI Secolo).
Architecture Talks was a series of events dedicated to the most recent Italian architecture, which saw 24 recently-founded practices taking turns to present their research and activities to the public. The program provided an opportunity to discover, through brief presentations accompanied by videos and images, Italian architects’ new generation work.

Guest lecture at the University of the Philippines
On 4 July 2011 Associate Professor Christopher Vernon gave a guest lecture at the University of the Philippines’ College of Architecture, entitled Chicago, Canberra and the Imperial Philippines. The lecture was sponsored by the Australian Embassy.
MoU with Udayana University

As the result of a visit to Indonesia in April by ALVA Adjunct Associate Professor Ian McDonald, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UWA and the Department of Architecture, Udayana University, Bali, was signed in July 2011. The objective is to develop cultural, academic and educational cooperation through the exchange of staff and students for teaching, study and research. A Memorandum of Agreement is currently being negotiated between the Universities with the intention of implementing the exchange in 2012.

CAPITthetical competition

A design ideas competition for a hypothetical Australian capital city is a Centenary of Canberra project, proudly presented by the ACT Government in association with the Australian Institute of Architects. Artists, graphic designers, architects, urban planners and environmentalists are invited to review Canberra's history and help the nation imagine how an Australian national capital might be created today. There are over $100,000 worth of prizes available. Stage one competition entries are due 31 January 2012. Visit www.capithetical.com.au for more information.

School Summer Studio running in January 2012

Interested students entering Yr 12 next year are encouraged to enrol in the 4-day studio run by the Faculty to give them a taste of what it is like to study at ALVA. The design disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture and urban design will be covered through intense tuition sessions with the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts' academic staff. For more information and to enrol visit http://www.alva.uwa.edu.au/courses/studio

2010-2011 Sustainable Development Scholarship winners

ALVA Architecture students received 2 out of the 5 Vice-Chancellor's Sustainable Development Summer Scholarships. The scholarships of $5000 each provided a salary for them to work for eight weeks during the summer break.

The ALVA House nears completion

The ALVA House is a modular timber-framed structure that was recently constructed as part of the UWA Future Farm Project in Pingelly.

Originally located within the Homebase showroom in Wembley as a series of display modules without a roof structure, the house was originally conceived by Paul Odden of Optimum Resource Architects for the Forest Products Commission.

The house demonstrates a number of advantages to be gained in the adaptability, environmental suitability and economy of a factory-produced timber framed residence.

Having been in storage as incomplete modules for a number of years, Research Assistant Domenic Trimboli and the team from The Advanced Timber Concepts Research Centre of UWA (ATC) collaborated closely with Paul Odden to adapt the house to its new location in Pingelly.

Read more
Tobias Beale and Sally Farrah explored the feasibility of implementing vertical gardens on campus to reduce energy, recycle water and integrate built form and the environment. In the interest of reducing coal-fired power, Doug Pearce has assessed and compared the effectiveness of various solar panel products and their associated payback periods, and determined the extent to which solar panels could be installed at Crawley campus. Both projects were supervised by Associate Professor Philip Bay. View their reports.

Inaugural Bali Art Studio

During the mid-semester break, 19 students from the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts (ALVA) travelled to Bali as part of the inaugural Bali Art Studio. The studio was offered as an elective unit and was taken by students studying Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Fine Arts. Students from the program experienced Balinese culture and hospitality at first hand. Formal lessons included language, culture, drawing, printmaking, painting and photographic techniques as well as teachings on Hindu religious concepts central to Balinese culture. Field work included visits to significant cultural and heritage sites such as the Tirta Empul, the temple of purification and the Kerta Gosa or floating palace, the so-called Sistine Chapel of Indonesia. Students experienced active rural life in Kamasan village (Klungkung Regency, East Bali). By day they worked at the Wayang Painting School under the watchful eye of Master I Noman Madra. The school teaches traditional painting processes and techniques which are up to four hundred years old.

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Academic Promotions

The Dean, Winthrop Professor Simon Anderson, is pleased to announce that Professor Richard Read has been promoted to Winthrop Professor, and Assistant Professor Emiliano Roia was recently promoted to Associate Professor.

Recent PhD completions

Robin Campbell has recently completed his PhD in Architecture entitled The Convict Establishment in Western Australia 1850 - 1868.

Upcoming Art Gallery of WA Masterclass Lecture

The Art Gallery of Western Australia is offering a series of Masterclass Lectures in conjunction with its upcoming exhibition, Princely Treasures: European Masterpieces 1600-1800 from the Victoria and Albert Museum. On Wednesday 9 November, Winthrop Professor Richard Read will be presenting a talk entitled The Evolution of Baroque Rome and the Heritage of the Circulating City Plan. More information and booking details.

Sign up to stay connected

Have you signed up for alumniConnect yet? When you graduate you become part of a global network of UWA alumni. Join UWA’s first professional and social networking site for UWA graduates - www.ac.uwa.edu.au - register at alumnicontact@uwa.edu.au

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In the evenings they visited traditional markets and the village of Desa Sente. The rundown village is situated adjacent to the district rubbish dump. The school building has fallen into disrepair due to a lack of funding and there are no basic services such as lighting or sewerage. "This really emphasised the nexus between high culture and the stark reality of the developing world" said Assistant Professor Paul Trinidad. Read more

Martumili Architectural Competition

A limited design competition for an innovative Arts and Gallery Facility for Martumili artists in Newman, WA is being held by the Martumili Creative Indigenous Partnership, BHPbilliton, the WA Government and ALVA.

Teams of ALVA Architecture academics, current students or recent graduates and related professionals are eligible to enter the Competition.

A first prize of $10,000 will be awarded to the winner of the Competition. The budget to build the Facility is $4.5 million. Submissions close on 21 October 2011 with winners announced on 1 November. For more information contact Patric de Villiers.

Australia and the Indian Ocean

Associate Professor Christopher Vernon will be presenting a paper titled Re-alignment: Australia and the Indian Ocean at the First Conference on the Heritage of the Indian Ocean, hosted by the Higher National School of Architecture of Montpellier and the Department of Cultural Affairs : Indian Ocean, at Saint Denis, Reunion Island- 2-4 November 2011.

The main purpose of the conference is to set up a basis for international cooperation in the field of urban and architectural heritage in the Indian Ocean, between countries having a common historical background and culture.

The three-day conference will bring together researchers, geographers, historians, architects ,archaeologists and sociologists from different countries around the Indian Ocean, with an open approach to the Indian Ocean as a meeting-point between cultures, from antiquity up to the contemporary period.

Vale Ruth Durack

It is with great sadness that the Faculty recalls the passing of Adjunct Professor Ruth Durack, Foundation Director of the Urban Design Centre (UDC) of Western Australia on 4 July 2011. 

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Professor Durack graduated with First Class Honours in Architecture from UWA in 1978 receiving both the prestigious J.A. Wood Memorial Prize and Hackett Scholarship. The Hackett Scholarship took her to the University of California, Berkeley (Master of Architecture 1982) and the University of Pennsylvania (Master of Architecture and Master of City Planning 1982). In 1991 Professor Durack was awarded a Loeb Fellowship by Harvard University.

Following 20 years of experience as an architectural and urban designer at the distinguished firm of Wallace Roberts & Todd, Professor Durack was appointed Director of the Urban Design Centre of Northeast Ohio at Kent State University.

According to an article honouring Ruth on [www.cleveland.com](http://www.cleveland.com) by Steven Litt "before returning to Australia in 2004 after 25 years in the US, Durack said, "I'm anxious and excited at the same time" but she added she was looking forward "to that wonderful moment after the 14hr flight (when) you walk out of the airport and you're assaulted by the smell of eucalyptus. It's a beaut thing you never forget."

In 2005 Ruth established the UDC as a joint venture between UWA, Curtin University and the State Government.

Richard Weller, current Director of the Australian Urban Design Research Centre (formerly the Urban Design Centre), observed "Ruth did a mighty job to get the Urban Design Centre established and everyone I've encountered since inheriting the role of Director has spoken in admiration of her as a person and a professional. Ruth's library bequest will be the new heart of the Australian Urban Design Research Centre."

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**The Sustainable Warburton Project**

The Sustainable Warburton Project (SWP) co-ordinated by Associate Professor Grant Revell, is a tri-polar arrangement between an Indigenous community (Warburton), industry (AECOM) and academia (University of Western Australia, with the support of ecology and design academics at Monash University and RMIT University).

In 2010, AECOM & UWA (ALVA) helped establish a research and practice-based design and planning studio focused on Aboriginal settlement planning in Warburton, one of 10 communities within the Shire of Ngaanyatjarra, located 1,050 kilometres south west of Alice Springs and 920 kilometres north east of Kalgoorlie.

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Three senior UWA design students in architecture and landscape architecture took part in the studio during 2010 as part of their coursework and presented developed ideas back to the community.

Rasheen Lee, Hannah Pannell and Jack Choi’s work subsequently won two top student architecture awards: UWA’s Hassell Prize for Independent Design and the Cameron Chisholm & Nicol Architectural Award. Jack Choi’s work on an Indigenous Cultural Centre is currently being reviewed for potential implementation.

Current students working on the SWP are:
Dinelka Perera - Living Arts Centre
Jess Snell - New adaptive housing types
Ben Proudfoot - New spaces, old places - designed botany
Jeremy Macmath - Resilient landscape design measures

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**Australian Urban Design Research Centre news**

Director of the Australian Urban Design Research Centre (AUDRC), Richard Weller, has been invited to give the annual **F. L Olmsted Lecture** at the Graduate Design School of Harvard University on October 12 and will also give a public lecture at the University of Pennsylvania on October 10.

Richard has also been appointed as a member of the judging panel for the International competition for a new town of 50,000 people in Weddell in the Northern Territory.

Staff from the Australian Urban Design Research Centre (AUDRC) have participated in an **Enquiry By Design** in Geraldton involving over 200 members of the community and are working with the Committee of Perth on Visioning Scenarios for a city of Perth with a population of 3.5 million

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**Agreement of Collaboration with ISI**

In a significant ceremony the Rector of Indonesian Institute of the Arts (ISI) Profesor Dr I Wayan Rai, along with Ibu Made Rinu the Dekan of the Faculty of Art and Design (FSRD), signed an agreement of collaboration with the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts (ALVA).
The signing took place in Denpasar on 26 July after the completion of the inaugural In Country exchange program. Nineteen students from the Faculty participated in a program of art and cultural immersion for three weeks in June and July this year. [Read more]

**AffirmativeArchitecture Symposium**

*AffirmativeArchitecture* was a two-day symposium and exhibition convened by Dr Martyn Hook (Design Research Institute at RMIT University), Simon Pendar, Dr Stephen Neille (Pendar and Neille, Curtin University) and Adrian Iredale (iredale pedersen hook) over the weekend of 20-21 August.

Assistant Professor Jennie Officer and Marco Vittino from ALVA both presented a selection of their private work:

- Officer Woods about recent projects within the context of the notion of 'extra'; finding liberation in limits, relevance in the everyday and comfort in change.

- vittinoAshe on the paradox between the small projects that they execute and the general underlying development of the city and suburbs.

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