DEAN'S REPORT

Welcome to the first Archetype of 2008, with a greeting of best wishes for a successful and enjoyable year. This early part of the year is full of activities: student recruitment and staff developing research grant applications.

We have just enrolled the new first year students and, once again, the Faculty’s architecture program had the highest UAI cut-off (93.15) of the architecture programs in NSW. From this year the program is Bachelor of Design Architecture plus Master of Architecture, with the latter replacing the BArch. The Bachelor of Design Computing had no difficulty in attracting its quota of first years, despite the downturn in other IT-related courses.

The Faculty had a successful year in 2007 with outstanding achievements by staff and students. Its community events were also winners and the last of the year, the student show at Carriageworks, was outstanding. The 2007 Wilkinson Lecture, on the restoration of the Parthenon, was also a hit. These, like many others throughout the year, depend upon the support of the Faculty’s alumni, whether it be by donation of money, volunteering time, helping through contacts or attending the events.

A major goal for 2008 is to enhance the Faculty’s alumni and community activities, including Archetype, and the Alumni Association will have a pivotal role in that development. If you have ideas or comments, I would be pleased to receive them, as would Michael Neustein, the Association’s president.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

Warren Julian

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

New Year is a time for resolutions and your Alumni Council cannot desist. During last year, with substantial assistance from David Turner (B Arch 71), we inaugurated a Bursary Fund to assist needy students. Other faculties have such funds and our goal is an invested sum of at least $100,000. The purpose of the fund is the support of students with special needs such as providing a tenancy bond or money for emergency medical care to financially needy students.

The University has a mechanism to ensure bursary grants are properly used and distribution of the funds will be controlled by experienced student counsellors. We ask all alumni to consider making (tax deductible) contributions to the fund, just contact the faculty for more information.

Other tasks we have set ourselves include
• Re-establishment of a Dean's Council to provide high level advice on all of the professions for which we prepare students, including such cutting edge areas as design computing.
• Expansion of our highly successful Careers Market Day. We are widening the range of professions and also encouraging recent graduates to attend.
• Launching of an exhibition featuring the work of prominent alumni, possibly organised in 10 year cohorts, designed to show the influence of the Faculty on the featured group.
• Welcoming as many of you to our various Faculty and University functions.

We always need help and we invite you to join us in any way you can. Retirees or those near retirement are especially invited.

Michael Neustein (B Arch 71)
President

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

We want to know what you have been doing since you graduated so email or write and tell your story. As part of our Etype newsletter we are starting a new section for our past students. This will be a great way to reconnect you with some of your old friends and see what they have been doing.

Don't forget to keep your details up to date by completing the address details on the back of the Archetype; you will also receive our Etype newsletter via email every two months.
At the Faculty of Architecture, Design & Planning at the University of Sydney we build leaders. Our graduates are equipped with the skills they need to create and innovate, to become leaders in their field. They approach their careers with openness, curiosity and a desire to meet new challenges and engage with the world in which they live.

A recent profile of Sydney’s Top 100 Most Influential People in The Sydney Morning Herald’s The (Sydney) Magazine (January 2008) highlighted the careers of four of our academics and graduates.

Senior lecturer, architect and community activist Col James AM (DipTCPlan, 1977) was cited by the magazine’s panel for his long-time commitment to housing for the poor, disadvantaged and aboriginal groups in Sydney’s inner-city. The award-winning architectural critic and adjunct professor Elizabeth Farrelly (PhD, 1997) is noted for her ability to change minds and spark debate through her fearless and honest writing on design and architecture in The Sydney Morning Herald. So too architect Frank Stanisic (BSc (Arch), 1975, BArch, 1978) has Sydneysiders talking about the importance of his inner-city apartment buildings, elegant expressions of the joys of urban living that have become benchmarks for sustainable design. Leading the way in the preservation of Sydney’s magnificent harbour foreshore, architects Richard Leplastrier (BArch, 1963) and Rod Simpson (BSc (Arch), 1985) are working with the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust to transform abandoned industrial and defence sites into usable public space that preserve the port's past and natural beauty.

We are proud of the influence our graduates and academics have on our city and our world.

To see full articles please go to: http://www.arch.usyd.edu.au/staff/staff_news.shtml
Dr Hyde is a registered architect who has been working in the field of sustainable architectural design and research for buildings. He has a national and international reputation in the area of environmental design through his work with the Martin Centre, the University of Cambridge, UK and the Institute of Wood Science, USA. He has been awarded four Australian Research Grants (ARC); two Enabling Grants from the University of Queensland; one Collaborative ARC Grant; three APA (I) scholarships; one FWRDC scholarship for support of students on industry related projects and over twenty industry related grants and consultancy projects.

In addition he was awarded an ARC SPIRIT grant, valued at $700k in 1999 for the development of an innovative lightweight sustainable prototype building on the Gold Coast (Health House Project). This has been constructed and is in the evaluation stage. It has attracted thirty-four industry partners and demonstrates cutting-edge environmental technology. This project has received much publicity and is seen as a model for sustainable urban development. He has coordinated two projects fro the CRC for Sustainable Tourism leading to a new international Green Globe Design Phase Certification system.

Richard is currently coordinating one new ARC Discovery Grant into new Green Building Materials using indigenous technologies, and two ARC linkage projects in social and economic issues of sustainable building design. He has also developed a number of computer-based design tools. One is the Duality database for sustainable timber buildings the other an energy-conservation tool for architects called LTV. This uses a warm climate over heating model developed from pre-computed data using the DOE2 simulation program. Richard has supervised ten successful Ph.D. students and six Masters students and is currently supervising five Ph.D. and two Masters students. He has 150 publications in the environmental design field and was Director of The Centre for Sustainable Design, The University of Queensland.

Richard is the Australian coordinator for the IEA Task 28 on Sustainable Solar Housing and has been selected as the subtask leader for the Demonstration building area. This has led to a number of internationally published books and publications, his most recent publication being ‘BIOCLIMATIC HOUSING, Innovative Designs for Warm Climates’. Edited by Richard Hyde published by Earthscan in 2008. (www.earthscan.co.uk)

Richard joins the Faculty as Chair of Architectural Science and will be working closely with the University to develop sustainability initiatives.

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

Michael Arndell is the Liaison Librarian to the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning. He is currently located in the Architecture Library (level 4 of the Wilkinson Building).

In June 2008, the Architecture Library will merge with the Engineering, Madsen and Mathematics Libraries to form the SciTech Library. This library will be located on the ground floor of the new Sydney Central Building on City Road, and is part of the Campus 2010 project. The library will provide access to excellent resources and study facilities, as well as extended opening hours.

By obtaining library membership, University of Sydney Alumni can take advantage of the following services:

- Borrowing rights from any University of Sydney Library
- Access from your home or workplace to a limited number of electronic journals and the Macquarie Dictionary Online
- Access, within our libraries, to all our electronic databases and ejournals
- Links to high quality and trusted websites and free online resources selected by our subject experts
- "Ask A Librarian" subject-specialist support

Have a look at the University of Sydney Alumni webpage for information on how to obtain membership [http://www.library.usyd.edu.auclients/alumni/](http://www.library.usyd.edu.auclients/alumni/) or contact Michael by phone on 9351 5594 or by email at m.arndell@library.usyd.edu.au.
On the evening of Friday 21st October 2005, fire took hold of the Acoustics Laboratory here at the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning. Although the flames were mainly restricted to one room, the entire laboratory suffered smoke and corrosive heat damage, with most of the equipment destroyed. No-one was in the laboratory at the time so, thankfully, nobody was hurt. Although the cause of the fire was not established, it seems likely that it started in the lighting system of the anechoic room. The damage bill for equipment alone was in the vicinity of $2 million and reconstruction $1 million. More than two years after the fire, the laboratory reopens in February.

The history of the acoustics laboratory dates from 1954 when Professor H.J. Cowan was appointed and the Department of Architectural Science was established and a Master of Building Science was started in 1961. Initially it was mainly concerned with structural aspects of building but it was soon realised that there was a need for other aspects of building science such as lighting, thermal and acoustic design. Since then there has been a growing interest in undertaking postgraduate research degrees, including acoustics. Coursework in audio and acoustics now forms one of the Faculty's largest postgraduate programs.

The laboratory reopening is welcome news not only to the faculty but to the students forced to defer their research.

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Student film-makers focus on life in Redfern

The University's neighbours, residents of The Block in Redfern, feature in a series of revealing documentaries made by digital media students. The three-minute films were made as part of the digital video design and production course. The idea grew out of observations made by lecturer Caitlin de Berigny Wall (who prefers the name Dr onacloV) as she moved around the campus. It also dovetailed neatly into the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning's strategic plan which aims to enhance relationships with Indigenous students and communities.

“I thought it would be great if students could focus their documentary films about Koori people living in our area – simply meeting different members of the community and making documentaries about them and their work. It hasn't always been easy but it has been very interesting and successful.”

The students have held two film award ceremonies so far, both at the Redfern Community Centre. Wai Yuen Chong’s documentary about Sonia Brindle, a Sydney woman who tells her life story, including her experience of losing one of her brothers in custody, was especially powerful, said Dr onacloV.

“Her story was very brutal and I found out a lot of things that you don't read about in the paper,” said Wai Yuen Chong, who won Best Film and Best Cinematography at the June [07] awards.

Dr onacloV, a documentary installation artist, said the digital films have dealt with issues of multiculturalism and racism.

“This course is so important because Indigenous Australians still have a life expectancy that is 20 years below that of the average [non-indigenous] Australian. There's a long way to go, but it is important that students know about the oldest living culture in the world. Their stories are so interesting and documentary is a really effective way to challenge stereotypes and cross racial divides,” said Dr onacloV.

She added: “It starts with education – just to let other Australians see interesting cultural aspects of Indigenous culture that can be shown in a positive way rather than relying on stereotypes.”

The unit is part of the postgraduate masters course in digital media in the Discipline of Design within the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning. “I teach students theoretical and philosophical enquiries behind documentary and, in this unit the focus is on Indigenous Australians,” Dr onacloV said.

She hopes to make the film festival a bi-annual event.

By: Lauren Smelcher - UniNews
Five recent graduates of the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, Georgia Bowen, Kirstin Hume-Grimm, Cc Ip, Amber Lush and Harriet Stone have all completed the double degree of Bachelor of Design in Architecture and the Bachelor of Architecture. In 2006, whilst in their second last year of study, the group established bricks + cartwheels; a non government organisation that aims to provide good design to economically disadvantaged communities and encourage community participation in the built environment. At the moment they are working with the community of Katolo in Kenya to establish a local secondary school for girls. Currently, many local girls cannot attend secondary school as the schools are located in the greater province which caters for wealthier students who can afford the fees. The aim is to build a new school in the community with fees for local students being subsidised by paying students attracted from outside. Building this school, quite simply, gives these girls an education. 

So enthusiastic is the group that in September 2007, the bricks + cartwheels team spent a weekend in Mudgee exploring the potential of using stabilised soil block as a construction technique for the Secondary School for Girls. They are committed to designing the school, raising the funds and returning to Katolo to oversee the construction. To see the locals work so hard inspires the bricks + cartwheels team to work harder.

All five of partners have worked in architectural firms or community development programs either in Australia or overseas and though they now work fulltime are strongly committed to this organisation and its projects. They are currently in the process of completing their proposal for the school and organising their next major fundraising event, which is scheduled for the end of April this year. This event aims to garner wider support from members of the Architectural Community.

For more information on bricks + cartwheels and how you can help go to: http://www.bricksandcartwheels.org/
IMPOSSIBLE GEOGRAPHIES
Memories of a past that is yet to exist and other urban fictions

From September to October 2007 Sydney’s Tin Sheds Gallery hosted the exhibition Impossible Geographies, inviting the gallery’s audience to participate in two interactive media installations by Petra Gemeinboeck a Lecturer in Digital Media. The works, Memory and Urban Fiction, explored the elasticity of time and space; and with it, ways in which to map presence on a playground that intertwines the real and the virtual. In an era of digitisation and increased surveillance, the works sought alternative viewpoints as processes rather than positions – indeterminate, incomplete and always hybrid.

Entering the gallery space, one was surrounded by screens, though not of the common kind; rather they reminded of stretched sheets of translucent skin and chandeliers of broken glass. The projections, shimmering across these fragmented surfaces, enmeshed the visitors in a time flow freed of its linear constraints, now woven and enlaced. They suggested another presence, someone–something that surveyed and processed the visitors to capture them in a third space, oscillating between the physical and the virtual and perforating the present with the absent.

The installation Memory, using a meshwork of laser beams and cameras, involved participants in a heist–like–plot only to carve out glimpses of the gallery’s fleeting memory, and with it, the impossible task to navigate therein. Every time a beam of light was crossed, the space was captured, processed and remembered. Then the projection surface cracked and gave way to a wispy fabric of fragments from the past seeping into the present – a pitter-patter of memories against a mirrored surface. Instead of a clear mirror image however, we are met, in Anna Munster’s words, “with distribution, fragmentation and filtering of the relations between image/trace, computer/embodied human and processing/thinking” (review in RealTime Arts No# 82, 2007).

The second installation, spanning translucent silicone sheets between scaffolding tubes, expressed layers of skin, cut from the urban fabric, and swiped across the space. Closer inspection revealed that the fabrics were still in the making, and tiny movements produced threads, whorls and stitches, similar to the embroidering pulses of a heart rate monitor. But where did these stitching signals come from, and what did they monitor? Exploring these questions required the visitors to step outside the gallery and to engage with a playground much more indeterminable. Urban Fiction used customized mobile phones to trace the participants’ encounters, and to see in them a filigree of imaginary spaces spun by our everyday lives—spaces that our traditional maps are blind to. Back inside the gallery, these captured imaginary spaces were mapped against buildings, streets and other urban marks of regulation; producing a fiction that blurred the boundary between map and landscape.

The connections between the creative works and the Faculty extend beyond their setting of the Tin Sheds Gallery. The questions that the works raised about the interactions between physical and virtual spaces, and how we deal with these interactions in our everyday lives, will play an important role in shaping the future agendas of architecture, design and planning.

“I would like to thank the members of this faculty for their generous support, including Jan Fieldsend, Anita Lever, Jason Thorne, Leslie George, Megan Haig, Suzanne Roberts, Bruce Hyde, and the volunteers, Francesca Veronesi, Nissa Blagojevic, Adam Chromicz. In particular, I would like to thank Phil Granger for making the impossible possible.” – Dr. Petra Gemeinboeck.

Dr Petra Gemeinboeck can be contacted at: petra@arch.usyd.edu.au. Urban Fiction was produced in collaboration with Rob Saunders and Andy Dong.

For information about upcoming exhibitions at the Tin Sheds Gallery see www.arch.usyd.edu.au and go to News + Events.
Dr. Kirsty Beilharz, Senior Lecturer and Program Coordinator for Graduate Digital Media, Key Centre of Design Computing and Cognition has been awarded the Matsumae International Foundation Research Fellowship to undertake 3 months research at the Artificial Intelligence Lab at Tokyo University.

Dr Beilharz has also been awarded the AsiaLink Arts Residency funded by the Australia Council for the Arts and the NSW Ministry of the Arts to undertake 3 months collaborative research and practice in interactive digital media, gestural interaction with sonification and Japanese music with the International Shakuhachi Kensusukan in Chichibu, Saitama, Japan.

In December 2007, Adjunct Associate Professor Vivienne Milligan, Director of the AHURI Sydney Research Centre was awarded the Australasian Housing Institute NSW Branch Award for professional Excellence for “Outstanding Achievement in Social Housing”.

Vivienne was appointed an Honorary Associate of the Faculty in 2000 and in 2004 became Director of the AHURI Sydney Research Centre with the responsibility of managing the partnership between the University of Sydney and AHURI Ltd in Melbourne. As well as continuing her extensive research with a core focus on housing policy, her present role at the University also involves teaching post-graduate housing studies courses within the Urban and Regional Planning Program.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RESEARCH CONVERSAZIONE WINNERS
October 26, 2007
Research Conversazione is an opportunity for students to meet industry people interested in their work and is an opportunity for students to win a prize for excellence in project work.

Architecture & Allied Arts
Donna Wheatley 1st
Scott Hill 2nd
Ingo Kumic 3rd

Architectural & Design Science
Susan Rice 1st
Sam Ferguson 2nd
Michael Bates 3rd

Design Computing & Cognition
Kaz Grace 1st
Noelene Fajardo 2nd
Xiong Wang 3rd
Irene Chen 3rd

Urban & Regional Planning and Policy
Richard Hu 1st
Tooran Alizadeh 2nd
Angela Pitts 3rd

2007 JEAN AND ANDREW WONG RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP
Mr YiZhi Hu is a student in the Urban and Regional Planning and Policy discipline, supervised by Professor Ed Blakely. His research is a comparative analysis of three Pacific Rim metropolises, Sydney, San Francisco and Shanghai. It is hypothesised that in an info-global era, the nature of the CBD is changing, and that the CBD’s future lies in its diversified qualities to be globally competitive.

2007 HENRY J COWAN RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP
Mr Abul Mozammel Mridha is a student in the Environment Behaviour Studies research group, supervised by Emeritus Professor Gary Moore. His research working title is “The relationship between residential satisfaction and apartment living: A case study in the Dhaka Metropolitan Area, Bangladesh.” He aims to identify the major components of residential satisfaction and examines their effect for residents in medium to high density residential areas.


If you would like to obtain further information about any awards or events please visit www.arch.uysd.edu.au and go to news and events.
archetype is published periodically on behalf of the Architecture Alumni Association and the Faculty of Architecture, Design & Planning.

Julia Wilson Editor

Carmen Lau Designer

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DO YOU KNOW WHERE THESE ALUMNI ARE?

We have lost contact with some of our alumni, and are asking you for your help. We value our alumni and are keen to be in contact with as many as possible but we do not have contact details for the people on this list.

Could you check the list, and either: contact the alumni and ask them to update their own details at www.usyd.edu.au/alumni; or send their details to alumni@arch.usyd.edu.au and we will contact them to verify their details. We are very grateful for your assistance.

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http://www.arch.usyd.edu.au/cpd/

Thursday Night Lectures

Thursday night 6:00 pm in ALT 1
see www.arch.usyd.edu.au then go to News and Events

Tin Sheds Gallery

Exhibition information
see www.arch.usyd.edu.au then go to News and Events

Update your details & Stay Connected:

Please let us know if you have changed address, telephone number or e-mail, so that we can keep in contact and advise you of up coming alumni events, lectures and other information.

www.usyd.edu.au/alumni   or

Please complete the following information and return to:

Julia Wilson, Alumni Coordinator
Faculty of Architecture, Design & Planning, Wilkinson Building G04, Room 450
The University of Sydney   NSW 2006

Phone: (02) 9351 5906   Fax: (02) 9351 5665   E-mail: j.wilson@arch.usyd.edu.au

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