Newsletter IFLA

No. 87
April
2010

Asia Pacific Region Special Issue

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From the President	**Diane Menzies**	**2**
Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Award	**Diane Menzies**	**2**
47th IFLA World Congress, Suzhou, China		**3**
Welcoming Address	**CHSLA President, CHEN Xiaoli**	**3**
Chinese Landscape Architecture	**Dr JIN Hexian, Prof WANG Shaozeng & Prof WANG Xiaojun**	**5**
Country (see full title with article)	***Author(s)***	
Iran	**Hamid Ebrahim-Kasra Talebi**	**7**
India	**Akshay Kaul**	**9**
India	**Nupur Prothi Khanna**	**10**
Hong Kong	**Evans IU**	**12**
Thailand	**Ariya Aruninta**	**13**
Malaysia	**Dato Ismail Ngah**	**14**
Singapore	**Ellen WONG**	**16**
Indonesia	**Soehartini Sekartjakrarini & Puspita Resi**	**18**
Taiwan	**Chun-Yen Chang**	**19**
Korea	**Sung-Kyun Kim**	**21**
Japan	**Hiroki Nakanishi**	**22**
The Philippines	**Paulo G. Alcazaren**	**23**
Australia	**Paul Harding**	**24**
Australia	**Adam Hunter**	**26**
New Zealand	**Alan Titchener**	**27**

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IFLA News No. 88: **Heritage** (July 2010)
IFLA News No. 89: **Surprise issue** (September 2010)
Potential contributors please contact john.clemens@canterbury.ac.nz
Deadline for articles (500-1000 words plus illustrations) last day of the preceding month

From the President

Diversity of cultures is a strength of the Asia Pacific Region. From the mountains and deserts of Iran in the north-west, to the indented coastlines and island of Japan and New Zealand in the north-east and south-east, there is also a multitude of different landscapes. As those landscape are made and influenced by cultures that have different understandings of nature, and different responses to their surroundings, so exhilarating contrasts have developed. Even though rulers and traders of surrounding ancient countries interacted and mixed different cultures, fauna and flora when they visited Darius in Iran centuries ago, as recorded on stone panels in the sacked city of Persepolis, the differences have been maintained over the centuries. Even though religions and ideas have been transported through the region, gradually modifying cultures, the differences have created unique landscapes. You know where you are when you walk through cities in Japan or fields in Thailand or India.

The diversity of landscapes formed through interaction between culture and physical natural factors in the Asia Pacific region are now under threat of homogenization. Some of that stems from global communication, trade and travel, but threat, as the article from Philippines Association of Landscape Architects explains, also comes from landscape architects. Our profession is imposing foreign cultural values with scant respect for local people. IFLA aimed to address this in the statement reminding members of the IFLA Code of Ethics, approved in 2000. We said:

> *Global servicing is just as frequent for landscape architects as it is for many other professions. When colleagues provide services in non-home countries, however, they are encouraged to do so in conjunction with a local partner. This is because those who are unfamiliar with local customs and politics may inadvertently provide advice, which affronts local cultures and acts in conflict with and to the detriment of the local profession. This issue was originally raised by AIAP. A visiting landscape architect [to Italy] had undertaken work without a local partner, departed and left local practitioners to deal with some of the derision to which the proposals had given rise. The IFLA ethics policy is not intended to constrain ingenuity or sharing of ideas but to head off attack on our profession caused by insensitive practices.*

The section relevant to work in other countries is:

2.2 To ensure local culture and place are recognized by working in conjunction with a local colleague when undertaking work in a foreign country.

The Philippines have reacted to the threat by limiting landscape architecture practice to nationals, although they indicate this requires much greater enforcement to be effective. Our international profession requires clearer education and professional imperatives through all associations to treat foreign cultural landscapes with a sensitive hand, and to work with greater humility with local professions.

The Asia Pacific Region is our region, so we offer this issue with pride in recognising what our profession is doing but also recognising how far we need to travel. Our World Congress in Suzhou China in May 2010 will help to promote the increasingly skilled and innovative work in our region. This is also my last IFLA News as President so I take this opportunity to wish Asia Pacific as well as the international profession of landscape architects a respected future.

Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Award address

Professor Bernard Lassus of France will address landscape architects and guests from around the globe on his contribution to the profession. His address will be delivered in Suzhou, China on May 25 as a forerunner to the IFLA World Council meeting and the 47th World Congress. Professor Lassus was the recipient of the IFLA Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Award in 2009. The terms of the Award state:

> *The* IFLA Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Award *is the highest honour that the International Federation of Landscape Architects can bestow upon a landscape architect. The Award recognises a living landscape architect whose lifetime achievements and contributions have had a unique and lasting impact on the welfare of society and the environment, and the promotion of the profession of landscape architecture.*

2009 was the second presentation of the Award, which was initially planned to be awarded every four years. However, a proposal to the IFLA World Council this year sets out a new formulation of the rules, providing for an annual award and address. The address by Professor Lassus will we hope be the first of many distinguished annual Award addresses to the landscape architecture profession.

The 47th IFLA World Congress, Suzhou, China

The IFLA World Council will be held on May 26-27, 2010 followed by the 47th IFLA World Congress on May 28-30, 2010 in Suzhou, P R China.

Welcoming Address by CHSLA President, CHEN Xiaoli

Dear distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of all members of the Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture (CHSLA), I am honored to welcome you to China for the 47th IFLA World Congress, and I would also like to express my sincere respect to landscape architecture experts, scholars and young students from around the world.

China is a country with an ancient civilization and a long history. The diligent, brave, kind, and wise Chinese people have fully integrated the thought of harmony between man and nature into landscape construction, and this idea of "man is an integral part of heaven" has been part of the blood of Chinese people. China has also been known as "the mother of world gardens" for its abundant plant resources. Suzhou, an old city full of poetic dwelling rhythm, has even held the fame of "an earthly paradise" for the vastness of the lakes and mountains and the Jiangnan rivers, bridges and waterfront households.



The Maojiabu Scenic Area in Hangzhou



Santaiyunshui Scenic Area in Hangzhou

In the past sixty years, Chinese landscape architecture has made tremendous achievements in the planning, design and construction of urban green space systems, the protection of historical gardens, and the maintenance and management of scenic areas. And the living environment of the people has been greatly improved. People's enthusiasm of caring for the environment has also been aroused through national and provincial level award programs of garden cities.

IFLA's main task is to look after the natural ecosystem of the world and promote the development of international landscape architecture interactions; actively to promote landscape architecture education; and to apply cultural and scientific arts in landscape planning, design and construction to maintain the balance between people and nature. Therefore, I believe this Congress will be of great significance for China and other countries in upgrading the level of urban development and improving the living environment.

The Congress theme is "Harmony and Prosperity – Traditional Inheritance and Sustainable Development", which aims to discuss how to cherish and preserve traditional values and balance the relationship between tradition and modern social development against the background of globalization and urbanization. In this regard, Suzhou provides a reference example: a historical site and a traditional garden city, as well as a fresh modern landscape architecture practice.

The Congress will be an unprecedented event in global landscape circles, held for the first time in mainland China. CHSLA is looking forward to discussing this major challenging topic with experienced overseas colleagues, friends and landscape architectural students. We will also share and experience with you the charming city life and historical culture of Suzhou.

Finally, I wish the Congress a complete success!

Registration at http://www.ifla2010.cn/news/Registration/Index.shtml

World Congress Keynote speakers

Five keynote speakers will present at the 47th IFLA World Congress, including three Chinese scholars and two foreign keynote speakers. We introduce the two foreign keynote speakers below.

Professor Dr Niall G. Kirkwood

FASLA, Harvard University, USA

Professor Kirkwood will deliver his speech entitled: *Resilient landscapes: dimensions of future landscape architectural practices.*



Niall Kirkwood is Professor of Landscape Architecture and Technology of the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, an Honorary Fellow of The Kew Guild, London and serves on the Editorial Board of the Landscape Journal. He is currently on sabbatical as a visiting professor at Korea University, Seoul, Korea until spring 2010. From July 2003 to June 2009, he was the Chair of the Department of Landscape Architecture, the oldest such program in North America founded in 1901 by Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and Arthur Shurcliff. He was appointed the Gerald O'Hare Visiting Professor at the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland in 2005. He is also the founder and Director of the Center for Environment and Technology, a Harvard research, advisory and executive education initiative.

Currently the Center focuses on reclamation, regeneration and sustainable development issues on sites in North America, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Numerous published works include *Weathering and Durability in Landscape Architecture* (2004), and forthcoming books include *Principles of Brownfield Regeneration: Remediation, Design and Reuse* to be published by Island Press in 2010.

Professor Dr Isoya SHINJI

Member of the Science Council of Japan

Professor SHINJI will deliver his speech entitled: *Landscape theory based on diversity: increasing the durability of the social and natural environment through diversity.*



The professional field of Professor Isoya SHINJI includes landscape architecture, environmental planning, and landscape policy studies. He is currently a Member of the Science Council of Japan (Chairman of the Environmental Committee). He was President of Tokyo University of Agriculture (1999-2005), President of the Japanese Institute of Landscape Architecture (1999-2001), and President of the City Planning Institute of Japan (2003-2004). He has published *Green Eco Life* (2010), *A Practical Guide for the Restoration of Country Nature* (2009), *Recovery of Village and Agriculture of Japan* (2009), *Techniques of Rural Landscape Design (Chinese Version)* (2008), *Eco-citizens and City Planning* (2002-2003), *Amenity Design* (1992), and *Characteristics of Japanese Gardens* (1987). He also has been involved in landscape planning, design work and research. He won many awards and accolades, including the Purple Ribbon Medal of Japan (2007), an Honorary Degree of the National Agricultural University of Ukraine (2004), the Good Design Award of the Japan Society of Civil Engineers (2004), and the Japanese Institute of Landscape Architecture Award (1989).

Included in the full congress programme will be the Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Award address presented by Professor Bernard Lassus, the Presidents' Roundtable, a student charette and presentation of the Asia Pacific Region Awards, and the announcement of the IFLA International Students Design Competition winners.

Development of Chinese Landscape Architecture

Dr JIN Hexian

Professor WANG Shaozeng

Professor WANG Xiaojun

IFLA's first President and British landscape architect Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe pointed out that "Ancient Greece, Western Asia and China are the three major parties of world gardening history", and he also pointed out that Chinese gardens had significantly influenced Japan and Europe of the 18th Century. The Romantic Movement rose in the fields of literature and art in the 18th Century, and at that time Chinese natural landscape gardens had a tremendous impact on European gardening, and China was also known as "the mother of world gardens" for its abundant plant resources.

Chinese gardens enjoy a history of over three thousand years. The earliest archaeological traces were found in Capital Yanshi of the early Yin Dynasty in the 15th Century BC while the earliest written record began from Lingyou (Spiritual Farm) of Western Zhou Dynasty in the 11th Century BC, a recreational place built for the emperor's and princes' hunting and pleasure. Chinese classical gardens, which started in the 4th Century and matured from the 11th to the 18th Centuries, advocated nature and are full of poetic conception and profound emotions. They are organic combinations of rocks, water, buildings and plants. As early as 1634, the famous gardener of the Ming Dynasty, Ji Cheng, pointed out in *Yuan Ye*, the most important theoretical book in Chinese gardening history, that gardening should "be in appropriate site and decent garden structure" and "be clever in borrowing landscape and refined in appropriate body" so as to reach the realm of "although being man-made, as if natural creation".

Traditional Chinese gardens are an important part of Chinese culture. Along with the reform and opening up of China since 1980s, there have been over one hundred Chinese classical gardens of various artistic styles built in dozens of countries and regions around the world, such as "Ming Court" in New York, "Yiyuan Garden" in Vancouver, "Fanghuayuan Garden" in Munich, "The Chinese Garden of Friendship" in Sydney, and "Yuexiuyuan Garden" in Awaji. From the global perspective of time and space, Chinese landscape architecture has played a significant role in urban development and human habitat environment improvement around the world.

Since China entered the modern society from the 20th Century, people have increasing demands for the various functions of landscape architecture. Public gardens have become the major space for people to be close to nature and carry out a variety of cultural, sports, leisure and communication activities. In recent years, with the rapid development of Chinese cities, city green wall space is built in urban renovation, urban waterfront green space is built in river water treatments, and urban legacy brownfield sites are transformed and used in environment quality upgrades. Large urban area ecological transformations and landscape enhancements, the shaping of urban open space, and the protection of natural and cultural resources have greatly promoted the economic development of cities. Landscape architecture plays a pivotal role in this development in urban and rural areas. The scenic areas of China are the result of the harmonious co-existence of human and natural culture, and although similar to national parks, popular in the last one hundred years, they have more profound culture connotations. Since 1982, China has started the naming, registration, legislation, protection and development work by itself.

In 1989, the Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture (CHSLA) was established. In 2005, CHSLA joined the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA), which provides a new arena for Chinese landscape architects and professionals to participate in international exchange. In 1985, the CHSLA journal *Chinese Landscape Architecture* was first published. Along with the continuous development and practice of landscape architecture, Chinese landscape architecture has achieved fruitful results in theoretical establishment, planning and design, resource conservation, education and research, and engineering technology.

1. Theoretical establishment

The theoretical research of landscape architecture in China has made considerable headway since the 1980s. In relation to the traditional garden, Professor Liu Dunzhen's *Suzhou Classical Gardens*, Professor Zhou Weiquan's *Chinese Classical Garden History*, and Professor Peng Yigang's *Analysis of Chinese Classical Gardens* are all summaries of modern research on classical garden and garden history. Professor Chen Zhi's *Annotation of Yuan Ye* in 1981 extended the influence of the classical gardening book *Yuan Ye*. The older generation of scholars, including Wang Juyuan, Chen Congzhou, Feng Jizhong, Zhu Youjie, Sun Xiaoxiang and Meng Zhaozhen, were dedicated to the research and inheritance of traditional Chinese garden art theory. The subsequent group of young scholars also achieved rich results, which was a strong impetus for the formation of the modern landscape architecture discipline with Chinese characteristics.

In 1988, Wang Juyuan put forward in the *Encyclopedia of China – Architecture, Landscape, Urban Planning Volume* that the study of landscape architecture includes the three levels of traditional garden study, urban greening and landscape planning. It was the first time that landscape architecture was explicitly placed as one of the three disciplines together with architecture and urban planning to form a discipline group to construct and maintain the environment of the human habitat. In recent years, many scholars turn to the research on the whole landscape architecture discipline system, and methods of ancient and modern contrast and Chinese and foreign comparison are used to make in-depth study of the definition of the discipline, research object, core, extension, frame system, development trends, etc., which has further enriched the theoretical system of Chinese landscape architecture.

2. Planning and Design

Planning and design is the core of the landscape architecture discipline. In recent years, with the expansion of practice, methods are enriched and means are constantly innovated, which greatly promotes the progress of the discipline.

As a special plan in the overall urban planning, urban green space system planning has strong professional guidance and certain mandatory policy. The green space system planning in the early period emphasized the cultural and recreational functions of urban green space, while in the late 1980s more importance was attached to the landscape function and ecological effect of the landscape green space system. Most Chinese cities have developed green space system planning, which has laid the foundation for forming a systematized landscape green space system guiding cities for healthy development.

Nowadays, some landscape architecture construction projects present a large-scale and comprehensive trend due to the combination with the construction of major urban events. The engineering practices, such as Beijing Olympic Forest Park and Shanghai World Expo Park, put equal emphases on technology and art, and stress the application of new and advanced technologies, which has achieved good results. Landscape architecture construction, whose active role in urban development is shown in the projects of the Qihuaihe River of Nanjing, the west part of West Lake of Hangzhou, and Jinjihu Lake of Suzhou, coordinates and cooperates with specialized fields of planning, landscape architecture, architecture and municipal administration to form fine and new urban landscape space. Urban wetlands have been given special attention in recent years, such as Hangzhou Xixi National Wetland Park, Shaoxing Jinghu Lake National Urban Wetland Park, and Shanghai Chongming Dongtan International Wetland Park. Megacities like Shanghai and Beijing have made urban-rural integrated green space planning. The greenway system planning of a 1680 km length for the whole region of the Pearl River Delta has been completed and the construction has begun.

As to design style and genre, the reform and opening up in the last 30 years has made a great contribution to the introduction of international trends and the emergence of new domestic theories. In addition to the development and change of Chinese traditions, a wide range of perspectives of architects, urban planners, environmental artists, ecological scientists, geographic planners and earth artists are also put into landscape architecture planning, which has greatly enriched the contents and types of landscape works.

3. Resource Conservation

China has a tradition of landscape resource conservation since ancient times. Ancient ancestors' offering sacrifices, worship, travel, and homage to famous mountains, and monks' practices of Buddhism or Taoism have saved a lot of scenic and historical resources. After the exploration and practice over 30 years since 1982, the national scenic area management system with Chinese characteristics has been basically established. This concentrates the essence of natural landscape and tangible and intangible cultural heritage on the land of China. There are currently 885 national or province level scenic areas in China, with a total area of nearly 20 million km^2, accounting for 1.89% of the land area of China. Since China's first declaration of the World Heritage in 1987, there have been 38 World Heritage sites named in the *World Heritage List*, ranking third in total numbers around the world, among which 22 are China's national scenic areas and 13 are classical gardens.

As the outstanding cultural heritage of China, classical gardens not only are protected comprehensively and effectively but also serve as an important urban public landscape for society. In recent years, taking the evaluation of "national key park" and naming of "national wetland park" as the starting point, the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Construction has named 46 national key parks, such as Yangzhou Slender West Lake Park and Jinan Baotu Spring Park, and 30 national wetland parks, such as Beijing Haidian Green Lake and Tangshan South Lake. These efforts have greatly boosted the protection and development of the urban landscape resources of Chinese cities and have made a significant contribution to human habitat environment improvement, economic prosperity, harmonious society establishment and ecological civilization.

4. Education and Research

The group of scholars in early 20th Century who returned to teach in China after their overseas studies introduced modern Western landscape design ideas they had learned into China and set up corresponding courses in higher education institutions. The first landscape architecture program (called garden-making at that time) was set up in 1951 by the cooperation of Tsinghua University and Beijing Agricultural University (now China Agricultural University), which constituted the prelude of modern landscape architecture education in China. In 1956 this program moved to Beijing Forestry University (BFU). Since that time, the LA program at BFU has been the leading and most powerful and productive program of its kind in China. Up to 2009 there have been 335 landscape architecture departments and majors in 175 undergraduate-level universities, independent colleges and research institutions. Now there are three national key disciplines for landscape architecture, two key building disciplines for landscape architecture in the "211 project" (China's national project to build one hundred key universities), and five ministry or province level key disciplines for landscape architecture. With the continuous improvement in the undergraduate education level of landscape architecture planning and design, a lot of Chinese students majoring in landscape architecture have won awards in international student design competitions organized by IFLA since 1988 and have had a wide influence around the world.

Landscape architecture research projects have also been further developed, and the research content of many projects involves almost all fields of landscape architecture, including the study of the urban green space environment, scenic resource surveys, evaluation and conservation planning, landscape architecture history and theory, landscape plant research, planning and design theory and methodology, landscape architecture information management, and new engineering materials and construction technologies. Among them there is one project supported by Major Program of National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and 15 projects supported by the General Program of NSFC, five projects supported by "863 Program" (National Hi-tech Research and Development Program of China), two projects supported by National Key Science and Technology Program, eight projects supported by the Doctoral Scientific Research Fund Program of the Chinese Ministry of Education, and 15 projects supported by Key Program and "948" Import Program of Chinese State Forestry Administration. The scientific research level has been continuously improved, and three national science and technology progress awards and 21 province or ministry level science and technology progress awards have been obtained.

A green space development in Iran

Dr Hamid Ebrahim-Kasra Talebi

Rahshahr International Group - ISLAP

In green space development always we remember the following slogan: Green is more than a color, it is our commitment.

Nowadays vigorous palms, magic colorful flowers of the *Bougainvillea*, beautiful *Tecoma* flowers, and woodlands of tropical trees in the PSEEZ (Pars Special Economic Energy Zone) appears very normal. People who have not visited the area before might not realize that many places once had poor vegetation or were even devoid of vegetation. They should know that despite development in the area, it is because of the sensitive and attentive efforts of teams executing and monitoring the master plan that natural landscapes, such as the *Avicennia* (mangrove) habitat in Nayband Gulf has remained unspoilt.

Identification of the South Pars Gas Field follows years of exploration in the Persian Gulf, and following the first phase of gas processing by the Pars Oil and Gas Company in Assaluyeh from 1989 to 1994, the PSEEZ was established. This region, which is located on the northern margins of the Persian Gulf, is about 30,000 ha in area.

In response to the harsh natural conditions in the PSEEZ, it was inevitable that some strategies for improving the quality of life would be needed. Today the quality of the environment is a controversial issue in this region. Valuable natural resources, such the mangrove forests, the *Tecomella undulate* habitat, and Christ's thorn trees, semi-natural areas, such orchards and farm lands, and even soil and water quality are key issues for green space planning and development.

Considering the extensive functions of the South Pars Gas Field, it was important to develop a master plan for the Zone. After a preliminary PSEEZ master plan had been prepared by an English consultant engineer, the Rahshahr International Group was responsible for preparing the final master plan and supervising many projects, including those for green space.

Based on land use studies and design standards, 10% of the development area (approximately 1000 ha) should be allocated to green space development.

Although green space development in the region is not the only factor affecting environmental quality, the resulting gradual improvement in the environment is obvious.

After different initial investigations, particularly of natural resources and ecological capacity, a start was made on green space planning and design of the master plan based on the twin goals: consider principles of landscape ecology, and maximise compliance with principles of sustainable design. To achieve these goals a series of strategies was developed, including the following:

- Using indigenous and stress tolerant plants
- Identification, conservation and promotion of valuable natural patches and corridors
- Mitigating undesirable impacts of industrial activities with the development of effective green space
- Improvement of the quality of life for people in settlements and in service and support zones
- Mitigating undesirable environmental impacts

Many thorough field surveys were carried out to collect comprehensive data. For example, in light of the lack of information about the plant communities of some areas, Ikonos high resolution images were used to identify valuable plant masses, which was fortunately very successful. Waterways and floodways were identified as valuable plant corridors, and this was confirmed by subsequent field visits. Based on principles of landscape ecology, these green corridors form not only the basis of green space development planning, but they are also the foundation of development in the master plan.

Using the results of these studies, three facets to green space planning were developed: conservation and environmental enhancement, sustainable design, and the production of appropriate plant species.



Plan of Nayband Gulf Park

Conservation and enhancement

Besides the general consideration of valuable plant communities and preventing their destruction, one of the most important project approaches in green space development has been the specific attention afforded mangrove communities, where efforts have been made to substitute protection with conservation approaches. Nayband Gulf with its mangroves is one of the most important environmental, visual, economic and tourist attractions. The *Avicennia* habitat in Nayband is the first national sea park in Iran. The Gulf and natural estuary is a seasonal shelter for migratory birds and the wildlife of the area doubles the natural beauty.

Apart from the conservation management plans, creating a forest park between two natural mangrove patches and planted mangroves will help prevent any adverse tourist influence and lessen threats to the national park. Beautiful landscape, proximity to natural forests and the presence of birds multiply the value of this site. Although the Nayband Gulf Park has not yet been built, it is hoped that a suitable financial sponsor will be selected to help the government to continue park construction.



Gravel beds and Frankenia *ground cover in the freight terminal of region*

Sustainable design

Green space development based on a sustainable design approach and xeriscaping has been adopted in some cases. This has been achieved by using resistant ground covers, such as *Frankenia* and *Sedum* to reduce evaporation, irrigation zoning, gravel mulching materials, and low maintenance plant species.

Plant species are the most important green space development tools. To provide suitable plants, a nursery was included in the master plan. Today the nursery in PSEEZ is not only a place for maintaining plants produced in other places, but also a plant production place in its own right.

India today: landscape at the crossroads

Akshay Kaul

ISOLA, Akshay Kaul & Associates

Poised at a remarkable point in history, India offers an unparalleled opportunity in landscape practice. It is unparalleled because it does not have a very strong contemporary landscape stylistic history or a client preference, nor does it is have a contemporary culture of sustainable landscape. It simply offers a blank slate to draw the profession and to create a precedent that can potentially set the benchmark for the generations to follow.

With a culture dating back in time, it offers ample resources loaded with aesthetics derived from symbolism and ecological content. Its rich but now chequered and undocumented living traditions wait to be rediscovered through the eyes of cinematographers, photographers, anthropologists, geographers, historians or landscape architects. Such an approach to landscape would mean scholarly perseverance in demystifying the rituals and traditions associated with land, water, sacred groves or wildlife. It would require traversing across the urban centers and learning from the tribal lifestyle or other living patterns that are still rooted in their regional geographies. Such an approach in landscape is practiced by few, yet the thought and potential are inspiring.

The bulk of commissions for landscape architects comes from developments in housing, infrastructure and the commercial segment, supported largely by developers in a market with its own financial dynamics. Such a scenario happens at all scales and across the country in town and cities. Often repetitive in typology these commissions are difficult to resist, but they come with creative challenges. The fast paced development with a quick turnover has forced the nurseries and hence the landscape architects to restrict themselves to a small palette of fast growing species. The new repetitive commissions are often cloned landscapes of manicured lawns, exotic ficus, palms and cycads in a country that otherwise has 12 ecological zones ranging through the alpine, cold desert, hot dry desert, semi-arid, tropical or coastal. Presently, these developments are a liability to biodiversity, natural resources and cultural sensitivity. The profession has so far not matured to the extent of being able to persuade the developer to see the potential of environmentally sensitive options at similar or lesser cost.



Shakti Sthal. Memorial to late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. A geological park. Landscape Architect: Ravindra Bhan

In general, landscape architects have small practices in India driven by one individual. They struggle ideologically between the extremes of having a practice that is meaningful and one that can satisfy their financial aspirations. Much of it remains a dream or a struggle as India is one of the countries that pay least to its design fraternity. While the Council of Architecture, formed through an act of parliament, suggests a minimum fee of 7.5% and additional consumables, even the government shies away from its own commitment. Hence, one ends up taking sides in the practice, which comes at the cost of meaningful work or monetary dream. Those who have the endurance or the financially stability to sustain the long and patient journey are few and far between.

Wanting international landscape architects to partake in the Indian growth rush seems to be another aspect of the profession supported by developers, and sometimes the government. The selection of international landscape architects appears arbitrary and is almost always based on the size of firm rather than their contribution to raising the bar within their own geographies. The low fees, often coupled with involvement up to the conceptual design stage, leaves a gap between the potential for contribution and reality. The new design influx that could have been a catalyst for change and improving professional practice is hence restricted to stylistic preferences without environmental, cultural or socially relevant contribution to a society full of contradictions and disparities.

From a distance it is difficult to grasp our semi-industrialized society and its challenges. The fast paced, pre-fabricated, modular, high finish materials and technology are not the local way of designing or construction, which is an industry of semi-skilled crews, bulk materials, non-industrialized materials, and comparatively low cost projects.



Shreyas, Bangalore. A boutique resort with native plants, water conservation, and organic farm on 25 acres. Landscape Architect: Akshay Kaul

The landscape architect has to bear these challenges through conception and design, continuing during construction. On one hand these constraints offers greater room for creativity to include crafts and customize details that might not be possible in other countries. However, it requires constant monitoring in the design and working drawings stages, and greater supervision on site to achieve the desired quality in aesthetics, environmental stewardship and functional needs without compromising on financial and social aspects.



IRRAD Campus Landscape Plan, Gurgaon. LEED Platinum Rating. Landscape Architect: Akshay Kaul

Landscape development at Terminal 3, Indira Gandhi International Airport, India

Nupur Prothi-Khanna

Principal, beyondBUILT Pvt Ltd

Assisted by Ankita Gupta, Landscape Urbanist, beyondBUILT

The scope of landscape projects in India is moving from designing projects in isolation towards holistic planning. Currently, landscape development for Terminal 3 is one of the few projects of a scale and significance that consciously attempt to lead the way towards an integrated approach in infrastructure development in the developing world.

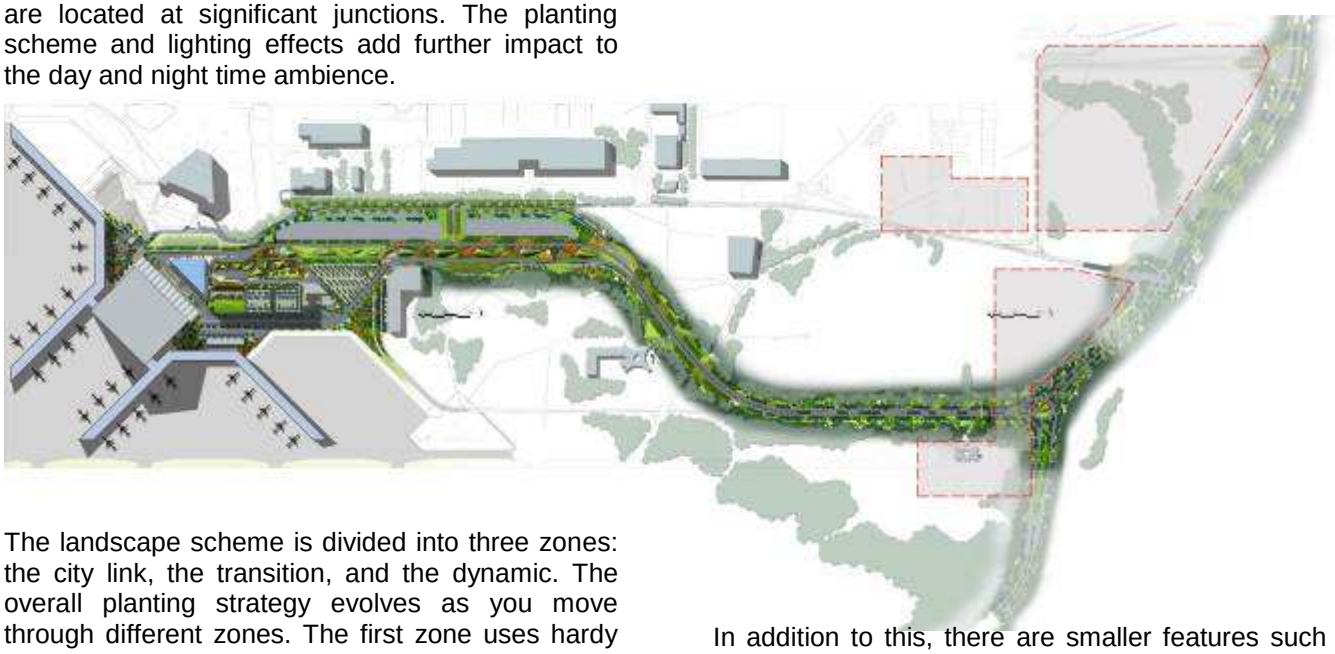
Spread across an area of 5.2 million square feet, Terminal 3 (T3) of Indira Gandhi International Airport will be the third largest terminal in the world. Delhi International Airport (P) Limited (DIAL) plans to commence passenger operations in July, well in time for the Commonwealth Games 2010 being hosted in Delhi in October.

Detailed design planning, material procurement and workforce has been employed for the massive built structure as well as for the development of the surrounding areas and access roads. The landscape and other associated works around T3 have been designed by AECOM, Hong Kong, a renowned firm with 400 offices and over 45,000 employees in over 100 countries. Delhi and Bangalore based landscape architects, Beyond BUILT Pvt. Ltd., are the local consultants to AECOM on this project, assisting them with design development and construction coordination with agencies for hardscape and softscape works for the exterior and interior landscape.



The landscape concept for T3 and its adjoining areas is based on the notion of flight. The landscape journey from the junction of the city link and central spine begins at the “the vortex”, which is designed to catch the wind emulating take off. From here on, the concept of flight is brought out with the use of steep turfed berms starting at 1.5 m and rising till 4 m. The landscape is celebratory, monumental and dynamic in nature. Angular water features, which add to the passenger’s experience, are located at significant junctions. The planting scheme and lighting effects add further impact to the day and night time ambience.

The landscape within the T3 passenger terminal building is intended to provide respite to the travel weary passengers, and contributes to the visual experience within the terminal using an entirely movable modular scheme of granite and FRP planters. There are 880 granite planters, 1050 fiber-glass reinforced planters and 800 self watering planters (from Germany) being used in both the Passenger Terminal Building and the domestic and international piers.

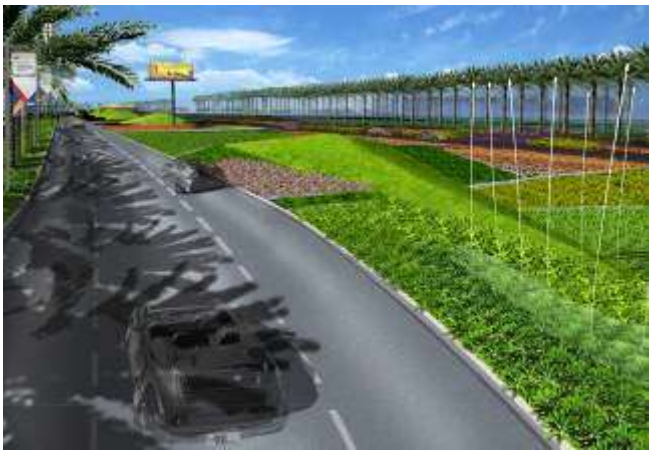


The landscape scheme is divided into three zones: the city link, the transition, and the dynamic. The overall planting strategy evolves as you move through different zones. The first zone uses hardy varieties in a rhythmic pattern along the median and roadsides, evocative of Delhi and its climate and native vegetation. The transition zone is planted with palms to be read with ground covers highlighting the curvilinear layout. And the dynamic zone is visually stimulating due to the use of strong patterns, sharp edges and a profusion of variegated and multi-textured plant material.

There are nearly 227 exterior and 198 interior plant varieties used in this project, taking into consideration a varied plant palette, growth patterns and required maintenance regime. Nearly 2000 trees, 1100 palms, 13300 cacti and succulents, and 55000 m^2 of ground covers along with 30,000 m^2 of turf is being planned to create myriad experiences for the passengers. Probably the first venture of its kind, extensive plant procurement was undertaken for the project lasting a few months, covering sources in the length and breadth of the country to fill a 12 acre on-site and 7 acre off-site nursery.
Apart from the plantation, this landscape scheme embeds systems like automatic irrigation, sub-surface drainage, rainwater harvesting and other environmental measures. The hardscape elements include granite pathways, cement pavers, low feature walls, water cascades and feature lighting. To irrigate this extensive 32 acres of exterior landscape optimally, 19 km of drip line is being installed, fed entirely by treated water, in itself an achievement for a project of this scale.

In addition to this, there are smaller features such as vertical green walls, a cascading water wall, and timber deck being installed at different locations within the building. These introduce landscape into the interior, thereby accentuating the experience of the internal space.

On completion, T3 would be not just a take off point for travelers. Its exterior and interior landscape will enable passengers to experience a visually enriching environment and create an everlasting impression within the terminal as also along the short journey leading to the terminal.



Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects: a short history

Evans IU

President, HKILA

The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects was first established in 1988 as an official organization promoting and regulating the practice of landscape architecture in the Hong Kong Special Administration Zone. The Institute was first incorporated under the registration ordinance back in 1995, making it an official organization in Hong Kong together with other construction & design professional institutes of Architects, Engineers, Planners and Surveyors. We had also initiated a Private Members Bill to the Legislative Council back in 1995 (formally passed in 1997) in the setting up the Landscape Architects Registration Board to register local and overseas landscape architects who came to work in Hong Kong, ensuring that the public's interests are protected with an expected level of professionalism when practicing landscape architecture in Hong Kong.

The development of the landscape architecture profession has been a long process here in Hong Kong. The early 1970s was the dawn of the profession when overseas landscape architects first came to work in Hong Kong for her infrastructure and new town developments. The first landscape architects in the public services in the then Territory Development Office were recruited, and private practices working in residential developments, theme parks design, public housing and open space design were set up. Most of our landscape professionals in those days were expatriates from around the world. They started the forerunner of the Institute, the "Hong Kong Landscape Group" as a Chapter of the UK Landscape Institute. Membership has grown steadily in the 1980s with landscape architectural graduates studying abroad and returning to work in Hong Kong. With the opening up of China in the late 1970s, demand for landscape architect professionals had been growing steadily in both the private and public market.

With increasing demand for professional services both locally & across the border, the first local education for landscape architects was set up in the University of Hong Kong in 1993, the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) programme, producing around 15-20 graduates on a bi-annual basis and giving a steady supply of manpower to the profession. The MLA programme changed to annual recruitment of graduate students since 2008, and further expansion of the undergraduate 4-year Landscape Architecture programme in 2009.

In recent years, the Institute has spent much effort in liaising and promoting the design and practice of landscape architecture with other professionals, government, and contractors in areas of greening, conservation, and public engagement. The high concentration of urban areas and the lack of a landscape policy and greening strategy for Hong Kong have given great challenges to our colleagues in urban redevelopment and rehabilitation. Our Institute has been promoting and pushing for a better landscape policy and urban renewal strategy with the government.

Our landscape profession is also facing other challenges in ecological conservation, heritage preservation, urban renewal strategies, and sustainable landscape design, similar to our overseas professional landscape architects. Working in a wider territorial base and international environment these days has bought in new initiatives and experience in addition to competition and challenges. Our new professionals have to be better trained and geared up to such challenges, with increasing demand for sustainable design and development. The highly political environment has also presented great challenges and frustration to many landscape designers who often find themselves living in a world of compromise rather than design philosophy and fantasy!

Long working hours and heavy traveling in their professional work has caused members' voluntary work and commitment to the Institute to drop in recent years. Council finds it difficult to recruit sufficient members in various sub-committees in expanding the work of the Institute. Our members have been somewhat fortunate in the past year, being only slightly affected by the global financial crisis, and maintaining a steady recovery in their businesses. Following on from HKILA's previous hosting of the IFLA Eastern Regional Conference back in 1986 and 1996, we look forward to closer ties with our international landscape profession institutions and colleagues to create a more sustainable built and natural environment.



The profession of Landscape Architecture in Thailand

Ariya Aruninta

Associate Professor, Chulalongkorn University

Thailand IFLA delegate

Landscape architecture is now becoming an even greater necessity in the burgeoning cities in South-east Asia, where globalization and free trade are stimulating rapid urbanization. Landscape architecture in Thailand is, like medicine, law, accounting, architecture, and engineering, a regulated profession. Both individuals and firms must obtain professional licensure and have professional education to a certain level as indicated in the regulations. The Architects Council of Thailand (ACT; www.act.or.th) is the organization under the Ministry of the Interior that is responsible for standardization and enforcement of the four built-environment professions: architecture, interior architecture/decoration, urban design, and landscape architecture. Before the establishment of ACT in 2000, The Ministry of Interior had a unit called the Regulation Board of Engineering Profession and Architecture Profession (RB-EP/RB-AP), which was managed entirely by the state. Even though landscape architecture has been recognized in Thailand since 1965, it had never been included in any RB-AP regulations.

Today, there are approximately 35 landscape architecture firms nationwide and these firms have registered with the Thai Association of Landscape Architects (TALA; www.talalandscape.org) as corporate members. And around 250 landscape architects who are members of ACT are ineligible to practice landscape architecture under national regulations. TALA and other related associations (ASA-Association of Siamese Architects, TIDA-Thailand Interior Design Association, TUDA- Thai Urban Designers Association) participate in the ACT and its committees to develop many measures, such as Continuing Professional Development (CPD), the Internship Development Program (IDP), the Code of Practice, and service fee standards. ACT also works closely with the ASEAN Architects Council and APEC architects in setting up international trade/services agreements among APEC, ASEAN countries.



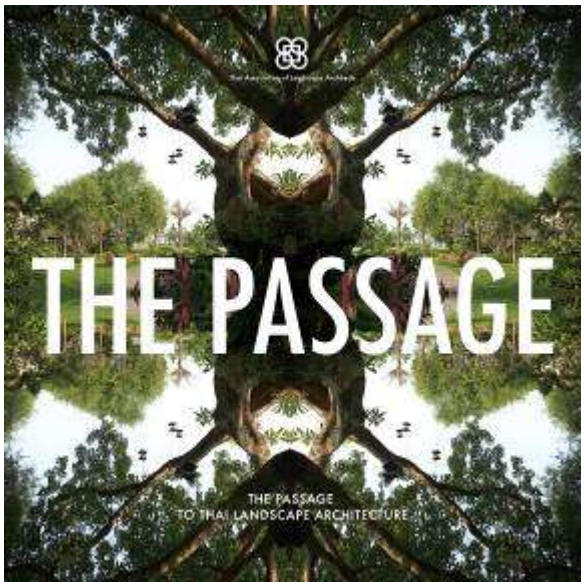
Belt Collins V Villas

Landscape architecture education in Thailand has been in place for three decades. The Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA) curriculum was approved in 1977 by The Ministry of University Affairs, and just one year later Chulalongkorn University began the first 5-year BLA programme. Chulalongkorn was the only university in Thailand to teach landscape architecture for 20 years, until it was joined by Maejo University, Kasetsart University, and Thammasart University (which began its 4-year BLA programme in 2007). A Master of Landscape Architecture is now also taught at two universities, Chulalongkorn and Silpakorn. Thailand currently graduates around 120 landscape architects each year. Graduates of several vocational degrees are eligible to apply for landscape architecture registration: the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Landscape Technology, the BSc in Horticulture, and a vocational diploma in landscape architecture.

Although Thailand has been educating qualified landscape architects for three decades, the professional situation is less than ideal for new graduates, who are faced with a choice of three career paths, none of which is ideal. They may: a) work for a firm in Thailand, where strict legislative rules and impractical ministerial regulation limit their long-term options; b) leave home to work abroad in neighboring countries where they may gain more experience and earn twice the salary; or c) leave the region to work in the West, where competition is greater but opportunities for higher education are available.

TALA is an association of landscape architects, and is not directly involved in the registration and licensing of practices. We collect membership fees at the minimum rate to encourage landscape architects, students, and interested persons in Thailand to join us. TALA recently celebrated its 20th anniversary (being officially founded in May 1988). We are moving forward to the fourth decade of the landscape architecture profession in Thailand with the Department of Landscape Architecture at Chulalongkorn University celebrating its three decades in 2007.

Based on graduation rates, Chulalongkorn should have by now placed approximately 700 qualified landscape architects into Thailand's market, to be joined by another 250 landscape architects from the other four universities. A simple calculation says there should be around 1000 landscape architects in Thailand. Unfortunately, judging from ACT and TALA membership and registration numbers, this is far from the case. The reason has much to do with the exodus of new landscape architectural graduates to other countries, where they perceive greater opportunities for advancement, salary, higher education, or creative freedom.



In order to publicize our profession, TALA produced its own Passage to Landscape Architecture (cover illustrated), which is the 230 page offset colored book of TALA's history, people, milestones, corporate members directory, articles, and projects as part of the celebration of three decades of Landscape Architecture profession in Thailand in 2007. The publication is expected to be distributed in the country, around the region, and perhaps internationally.

In March 2010, we will hold the TALA Expo. This is an annual, 3-5 day activity with several objectives: to promote the landscape architecture profession to the public, to exhibit the work undertaken by landscape architects, to contribute the knowledge of landscape architecture to solve recent urban problems, and to introduce new technology in the landscape architectural industry. In 2011, TALA Expo will be integrated with the IFLA APR 2011 Congress as we proudly host Asia Pacific IFLA international congress in Bangkok during January 2011.

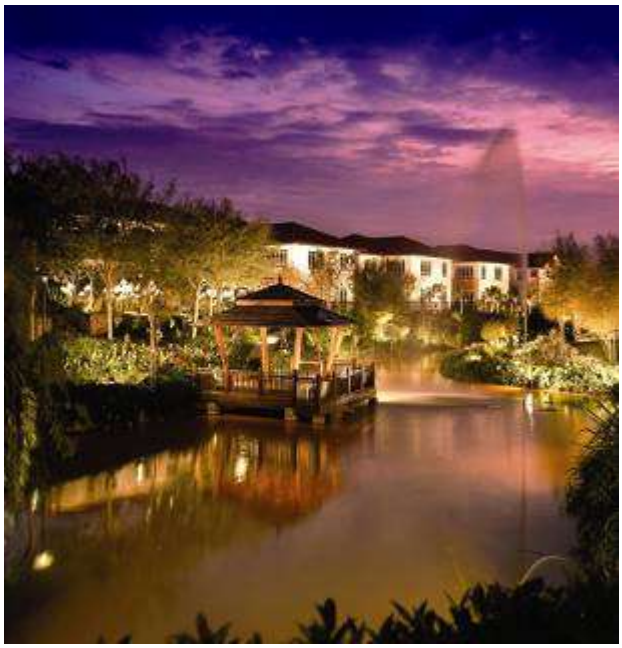
Malaysian landscape architecture goes vertical

Dato Ismail Ngah

President ILAM

Malaysia is gearing herself towards achieving developed nation status by the year 2020. In line with this vision the government has declared Malaysia to be a beautiful garden nation, and some policy changes are in the pipeline to ensure a quality living environment and sustainable future are achievable. Landscape, parks and gardens are important components of the living environment. In view of this, landscape architects and the field of landscape architecture will play pivotal roles to realize the beautiful garden nation dream.

The Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) is thankful to the government for taking such bold steps to preserve our natural environment. In 1996 the government of Malaysia established the National Landscape Department (NLD) headed by a landscape architect to oversee the quality of national landscape development, including the preservation and protection of the natural environment. With the formation of NLD it is now a requirement for every town in Malaysia to have a Landscape Master Plan and every park and green space to have landscape plans. It is also mandatory for landscape plans to be submitted for development applications.



In 1997 the National Landscape Day was introduced to be celebrated nationwide on the 3rd March every year. The purpose of the celebration is to create awareness among Malaysians of the need to develop, protect and preserve our very own landscape. ILAM is happy to note that our noble effort to celebrate National Landscape Day and our proposal to IFLA to celebrate World Landscape Day has materialized by having the World Landscape Architecture Month celebration. It is now common in Malaysia to celebrate National Landscape Day in March and World Landscape Architecture Month in April. ILAM is working closely with the National Landscape Department in formulating the National Landscape Policy (NLP) a document to regulate and facilitate national landscape development. The NLP will be tabled for government approval before year end. Subsequent to that, a Landscape Architect Act will also be formulated to regulate the registration and practice of landscape architects in Malaysia. To spearhead the implementation of NLP, a comprehensive set of Garden Nation Guidelines will also be produced and adopted.

To combat the climate change issue, we pledged in 1997 to plant 20 million trees by the year 2020. We are proud to report that as of December 2010 we have already planted 17 million trees. ILAM is proud to be part of the policy changes that are taking place in Malaysia. The Malaysian government initiated the promotion of environment-friendly projects by providing tax incentives for green technology in buildings, which has resulted in landscape architects being an integral part of the design process of new building projects.

Malaysian landscape architects have played ever more important roles in regards to the future development of “green buildings” for Malaysia. Just recently in Malaysia, greenery has made its way into unexpected spaces. High above the ground, and in vertical growth on building walls and roofs is the new wave. Due to the mass development of urban spaces and the importance of green spaces allocation, landscape architects and clients have become more innovative to maintain the percentage of green spaces required even with a limited space available….which is to go vertical!

The limited space in the urban area has caused landscape architects to find new solutions for most of the newly built buildings. Vertical green walls that crawl up the façade of the building now also serve as a screen from unpleasant sights, and even as a feature walls. They also help to reduce the urban heat absorption for the entire building. Being a tropical country, vertical green walls reduce overall temperatures of the building, which in turn reduces energy consumption. It also is a means for water reuse and is particularly suitable for cities. Vertical green walls are also suitable in arid areas, as the circulating water on a vertical wall is less likely to evaporate than in horizontal gardens.

The Institute of Landscape Architecture Malaysia (ILAM) has been promoting the new initiatives among members of the profession, and continues to explore all available options and expand creativity beyond. The fundamental knowledge is within all landscape architects, yet the functionality and practicality of these designs have to work hand-in-hand with the artistry and creativity of the product in order to create effective, beautiful and functional vertical green walls.



Singapore: a City in a Garden

Singapore National Parks Board

Contributed by Ellen WONG

National Parks Board is the leading greenery agency in Singapore. The vision is to create a City in a Garden, and to conserve, create, sustain and enhance the green infrastructure of our Garden City. Combining the visual delights and rich biodiversity of our parks, gardens and nature reserves with thoughtfully planned recreational activities, we facilitate your communion with Nature and provide an environment that is visually stimulating, physically nourishing, and emotionally uplifting.

Kings of Freedom, Bedok Reservoir Park, Singapore

"We must never forget that it could have happened completely differently."

The Kings of Freedom acknowledges a history that has past, its associated memories and the celebration of the future. It "is not only commemorating the horror but also the overcoming of the division of our country (Germany) as well as the end of the Cold War."

The space is subtly transformed to reflect the consequences of the Berlin Wall when it stood, through the clever use of colours and materials. Situated within the Bedok Reservoir Park, Singapore, the Kings of Freedom is a project that serves to reflect, through art, the consequences of the Berlin Wall when it stood.

The installation celebrates the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. It also serves as a poignant reminder of its past, and its impact on society and international communities. A short excerpt of the message by former Federal Chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl, is currently displayed on the Wall of Expression. The Wall of Expression reflects the "great joy and gratefulness in the free world", as interpreted by Dr Kohl.

"The Line" [illustrated], which is illuminated in red from dusk, depicts the void that the Berlin Wall created when it stood, and shows a clear west-east demarcation of the space, reminiscent of its past. Fragments of pavement at the Central Plaza leading up to and mirrored on the glass enclosure serve as another reminder of the consequence of the Berlin Wall on society and mankind.



"The Berlin Wall had practically separated a city and a country into two. It had also stood for the division of Europe and the world into a free and an unfree part."

Kolam Ayer River revitalisation project, Singapore

"To plan is to change mindsets, not simply making plans."



The Kolam Ayer Revitalisation Project is part of the Active, Beautiful, and Clean Waters initiative, a collaborative project between the National Parks Board and Public Utilities Board. The project seeks to integrate the natural and urban environment, and uses a variety of colourful plants to soften what was once a harsh concrete edge, blurring the lines between the water and its edges.

The project is a collaborative initiative between the National Parks Board and Public Utilities Board. The strong commitment devoted to realizing this project, in turn, became the central driving force behind the Active, Beautiful and Clean (ABC) Movement to revitalize and transform our canals. Both movements are integrated with the Park Connector Network (PCN), which is an existing extensive linear park system that targets the linking of all parks in Singapore. The integration of these movements realizes the enormous combined potential to create an extensive public space throughout Singapore that combines recreation, preservation of waterways, and ecological wildlife corridors.

Circulation paths, boardwalks and a floating deck that weaves between the land and river support active programmes and increase the level of engagement along the banks. The softscape is carefully framed in neat sections to be uniform with the urban environment and appealing to visitors.

A variety of plant species were selected for the project to attract wildlife, as well as to improve water quality. The area is now transformed into a wildlife corridor, and serves as food and a nesting site for birds, insects and aquatic animals.





The inclusion of equipment, such as the Archimedes screws, draws people to interact with water. It is this process of discovery through play that will instill a sense of ownership in the public to cherish and protect Singapore's waterways.

IdeA, Innovative development for eco Awareness, Tambora, Indonesia

Soehartini Sekartjakrarini PhD

ISLA Delegate, Landscape Planner and eco-tourism specialist, IdeA Executive Director

&

Puspita Resi

ISLA Delegate, Landscape Architect, IdeA Production Manager

The settlement of Tambora was rediscovered in August 2004 in an excavation undertaken by Indyo Pratomo (volcanologist at the Geology Museum, Bandung, Indonesia) and Haraldur Sigurdsson (volcanologist and geochemist, University of Rhode Island, USA). In 2007, the two experts continued their excavation in an expedition funded by the National Geographic Society and initiated research on the effects of the 1815 eruption on the Kingdom of Sanggar on the east flanks of the Tambora volcano, and on the volcanology of the north region of Tambora.



In 2015, Indonesia will celebrate 200 years since the eruption of Mount Tambora, a 4,300 m (14,100 ft) high mountain, and one of the tallest peaks in the Indonesian Archipelago. The 1815 eruption was the largest volcanic eruption in recorded history, causing many deaths not only directly, but also from the ensuing starvation and disease. The colossal eruption created global climate anomalies and 1816 became known as the "Year without a Summer" because of the effect on North American and European weather. The eruption also affected both the local and world political constellation. Together with the settlement of Tambora, three kingdoms were lost beneath 3 m deep hot pyroclastic flows, and false weather predictions made Napoleon lose his war in Europe.

The landscape created by the eruption of Tambora is a challenge for landscape architects to plan, design, and manage. Tambora is the largest savanna area in eastern Indonesia, surrounded by clear blue sea and small islands. A large part of the Tambora area was established as a protected forest nature reserve and production forest because of its tropical forests richness. The eruption also created a beautiful 9 km wide caldera on the peak of Tambora with a depth of 1500 m. The Tambora area is a unique and diverse landscape, and a composition of natural and cultural phenomena.



The savanna landscape of Tambora

Concern for the phenomenon of Tambora, led IdeA – Innovative development for eco Awareness – to call for landscape architects to contribute towards a new development concept for the sustainability and prosperity of the area. A team of four professionals, Soehartini Sekartjakrarini (landscape planner), Indyo Pratomo (geologist), Puspita Resi (landscape architect) and Ersto Bernanto (ecotourism specialist), took the initiative and conducted a rapid environmental mapping of the area, and applied an ecotourism scenario to its development. The ecotourism concept offers five principles: conservation of the utilized areas, active participation of the local community, production of education and recreation programs, contribution to the local economic, and managing negative impacts (Sekartjakrarini, 2009, 1999). The scenario has been disseminated to key stakeholders: the Ministries of Forestry, Culture and Tourism, the Interior, and Public Work, the National Planning Agency, and the local West Nusatenggara government. Hoping that the research done by the two volcanologists will continue, the key stakeholders have agreed to integrate their programs to support the development.



Satonda Island, to the north of Tambora



(Picture iproperty right of : Haraldur Sigurdsson)

The excavation area, 25 km from the caldera of Tambora, and the remains of the settlement that demands a living museum.

Disaster and vision: the landscape architecture news of Taiwan

Professor Chun-Yen Chang

National Taiwan University

Typhoon Morakot severely battered and destroyed the rural landscapes of southern and eastern Taiwan in August 2009. More than 170 townships were badly affected, and many villages were washed away (Fig. 1). The great loss of life, crops, infrastructure, and natural landscapes was a wake-up call to the need to re-examine land use and environmental protection in rural and mountain communities in Taiwan, and people have started reflecting upon the viability of development in these areas. However, increased conflicts and disputes have emerged when discussing reconstruction and relocation projects. Many mountain villages are inhabited by aboriginal populations that have strong ancestral links to their land. They are often passionate in their desire to remain in the mountain areas where they currently live. However, roads, fruit farms, recreation areas, and many other developments have caused extensive impacts on the local geology, terrain, and landscape ecosystem. The debate between relocating the mountain villages and restoring the infrastructural elements for these communities reflects the dilemma of sustainable development and landscape management. Nevertheless, the public and government agencies have recognized that more active attitudes and behavior are crucial for protecting the environment. Green design, ecological construction, and environmental conservation have become the main considerations of public policies and development projects in Taiwan.



Fig. 1 The floods have changed the face of the landscape and the lives of those living on it: Xiaolin Village of Jiaxian Township buried in five storeys of mudslide. Only one out of one hundred houses remained.



Fig. 2 Pavilion of Life at the 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition focused on the "art of green living", presenting various green technologies on living.

The 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition in Taipei City is a project representative of landscape architecture in Taiwan. Featuring a theme of "Rivers, Flowers, New Horizons", the expo will include 14 pavilions, each with its own unique style, dedicated to showcasing notable achievements in horticulture, science, and environmental protection technology. The aim of the expo is to inspire visitors to embrace new ideas and implement green practices for themselves, thereby achieving the goal of protecting precious environmental resources and unique beauties. Numerous Taiwan landscape consultants and professional designers are involved in the expo project. Based on the following three major design concepts, the expo is trying to demonstrate how we can turn conflict between nature and civilization into harmony.

Concept I: Convey the essence of gardening, science, and environment protection technology
Concept II: Achieve the goals of reduce, reuse, and recycle
Concept III: Combine culture and art as a part of eco-friendly living

Adhering to these concepts, some pavilions are being built of recycled materials, green walls, and green roofs. Powered in part by solar and wind energy, these buildings are shining examples of sustainability. Designs for outdoor gardens also require low inputs of energy, water, fertilizer, etc., as well as fewer outputs of noise, pollution, and surface water runoff.

The expo site is bounded by Yuanshan Park, the Taipei Fine Arts Park, Xinsheng Park, and Da-jia Riverside Park. In the Xinsheng Park Area, visitors can observe various aspects of ecological green designs. The Pavilion of the Future is built as an eco-friendly green building. The pavilion exhibits gardening technology as it applies to ecology, energy conservation, waste reduction, and health. It also displays the newest varieties of flowers, giving visitors a glimpse of the future of nature.

Meanwhile, the Pavilion of Life (Fig. 2) focuses on the "art of green living". It is designed with natural lighting, natural ventilation, natural energy such as solar energy, rainwater recovery systems, energy-saving in the cold air-conditioning system, the provincial water facilities etc. This pavilion presents the many aspects of flowers using audiovisual and other technologies. The Pavilion of Dreams (Fig. 3) offers advanced information, interactive, and sensory technologies with touch and voice controls to give visitors a new way to experience the life cycle of flowers and the flight of butterflies. The Pavilion of Regimen was refitted from the existing "Small Whitehouse". It adopts the theme of a healthy life and fresh air from plants and a variety of herbs for Chinese medicine. Finally, the Palace of Floral Teas was refitted from the Lin An-tai Historic House. It uses southern Fujian-style gardens to become one of the most unique pavilions in the Expo, demonstrating the ancient Fujian lifestyle that maintained a harmonious relationship with nature.

Taipei City is located in the Taipei Basin in northern Taiwan. Surrounded by rivers and mountains, development of the city has a great connection with natural landscapes. The 2010 Taipei International Flora Expo provides an excellent opportunity to appreciate Taiwan's achievements in the areas of horticulture, gardening and environment protection technology. We warmly welcome people from all over the world to gather in Taipei, to experience the beauty of its rivers, hills, and flowers, and to explore new green prospects at the 2010 Expo!



Fig 3. Pavilion of Dream at the 2010 Taipei International Flora Exposition provides visitors with a unique ecosystem experience with advanced technologies.

Landscape news from Korea

Sung-Kyun Kim
IFLA delegate
Professor, Seoul National University

Several recent events have marked a highly successful period for the landscape architecture profession in Korea.

2009 Incheon IFLA APR Congress

The Korean Institute of Landscape Architecture (KILA) and Incheon Metropolitan City hosted the IFLA Asia/Pacific Region's Board of Directors meeting and Congress (Organizer Sung-Kyun Kim: Seoul National University) from the 1st to the 4th September, 2009. The 2009 Incheon IFLA-APR Congress took place during the Global Fair Festival 2009, and served as the foundation for in depth expert discussions among the 800 participants from 12 countries.

The topics covered included “Birth and Rebirth of Urban Landscapes”, “Regeneration of the Waterfront in the City”, “Building Unique Landscapes: The Urban Park as a Cultural Landscape” and many other issues in the landscape architecture industry.

The three day program included a student competition, landscape materials displays, delivery of 32 research papers, and a design workshop. The landscape architects of the Asia and Pacific region were involved in the “World Association of Landscape Asia-Pacific Region” meeting, which included discussions relating to improving urban landscape quality. We expect the conference to serve as a stepping stone for the development of a healthy environment and beautiful natural landscapes in which nature and people coexist within the context of culture. The holding of the international conference in Incheon will improve the quality of its landscape and the landscape throughout the Republic of Korea.

IFLA APR Cultural Landscape Committee

Members from 12 countries took part in the IFLA APR Cultural Landscape Committee meeting (Chairman: Sung-Kyun Kim, Seoul National University) on the 2nd September, 2009. They conducted in depth discussions about the future direction of the Committee, and about the possibility of developing a website to attract and coordinate parties with an interest in Cultural Landscapes. Delegates also discussed the IFLA APR Cultural Landscape Symposium and decided that Korea’s Seoul National University will host the Symposium in July, 2010.

Other KILA activities

The Institute also recently hosted:

- the 2009 Autumn Academic Conference at Pusan National University on the 25th September, 2009. This academic conference was divided into four committees with 40 research papers presented by members and recently graduated students.
- an international symposium with the main theme of “The Future of Green Management and City Parks” and hosted distinguished scholars who commemorated the establishment of the Republic of Korea’s International Federation of Park and Recreation Administration (IFPRA) Committee on the 26th February, 2010.
- the 2010 Regular General Assembly and Spring Academic Conference at Seoul National University’s Graduate School of Environmental Studies on the 26th March, 2010. The Regular General Assembly elected the President and Vice President of The Korean Institute of Landscape Architecture for the upcoming term. This academic conference was divided into five committees, and 43 research papers were presented by members and recently graduated students.



Namba Parks: creating woods in the center of metropolitan Osaka, Japan

Hiroki Nakanishi

President, HEADS Co. Ltd



Namba Parks is a building complex consisting of eight floors of terraces with a 1 ha area of garden.

“Parks Garden” is the large scale roof garden of this building, using many large trees to create woods in the center of metropolitan Osaka.



The garden is located as a public urban park space, with trees and flowers and shops to provide a rich experience and impression for the customers.



The plan of Parks Garden has the greatest regard for the environment. The green plants of the garden make a contribution to overcoming the heat island effect, help to reduce the need for air conditioner because of the insulation effect, and thus reduce the effects of global warming. Also greenery and flowers of the garden make a contribution to the vitality of the town.

Philippine Landscape Architecture 2000-2010

Paulo G. Alcazaren

Philippine Association of Landscape Architects

The first decade of the new millennium has brought both a few triumphs and major setbacks for landscape architecture and its professional practice in the Philippines. The decade started on a low, as the Asian financial crisis brought property development to a standstill. It ended on a high as recovery is strong despite the worldwide economic glitch in 2006-2008. Local practitioners are optimistic but only if major issues are addressed.

The last ten years has seen increased membership in the Philippine Association of Landscape Architects. There are now 225 members from a starting point of 125. The profession is now also fully regulated with a strengthened law (Republic Act 9053). Professionals must be Filipinos and must register and maintain a valid license to practice. This regulation is now under a fully independent Board of Landscape Architecture, under the Philippine Regulation Commission, which oversees the practice of over forty professional fields in the country.

Within the past decade, the number of universities offering courses in landscape architecture has increased to three from the lone institution - the University of the Philippines. Degrees in landscape architecture are now offered north of Manila at the Bulacan State University, and south of Manila in Cebu province, at the University of San Carlos. The degree programs in both new sites are headed and staffed by graduates of the University of the Philippines and by a Filipino graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Design (in the case of Cebu).

Landscape architecture got a major boost in 2006 with the naming of veteran landscape architect I.P. Santos (former IFLA official) as a National Artist in Architecture and Allied Arts. This is the highest honor bestowed on the country's creative geniuses. Santos' award put landscape architecture in the spotlight and has reaped benefits for the profession and its practitioners.

This increased awareness of the profession has led to more project opportunities for Filipino landscape architects and firms. Development has boomed in Manila and other regions throughout the decade except for a slight slowdown in 2006-2008. Greenfield and brownfield developments abound. Inner city redevelopment projects, with higher density mixed-use complexes, all with landscaped podiums or amenity floors, have been the main sources of work for many practitioners. Government too, at the local and regional levels, has been receptive to the need for landscape architecture in the design of infrastructure and civic spaces.

The scenario has not been completely positive for Filipino landscape architects. Despite the fact of competent education and extensive experience (many Filipino landscape architects returned to the country after years working overseas to join local firms or to set up practices), many local clients turned to foreign landscape architecture firms for their major projects.



Local landscape architecture by Filipinos is limited to residential landscape design or minor projects of larger developments, such as this pool.

Over a dozen high profile and large-scale developments have made use of American, Australian, EU, Singaporean and Chinese landscape architecture firms. PALA has verified that none of these firms have complied with Philippine regulations (which allow special permits to practice in limited cases where local expertise is proven unavailable). PALA has taken steps on this issue with developers and the Philippine Regulation Commission, but red tape has dragged these proceedings over the last two years, whilst the number of foreign firms illegally practicing in the country has increased.

A good number of these firms started with outsourcing operations here, hiring local landscape architects and architects to do CADD work for projects in China and even their home countries. In the downturn after 2006, these firms set their eyes on local projects, marketing themselves to the detriment of local practitioners. It is a double whammy because most of the ranks of local firms have been depleted by pirating from these outsourcing firms. Moreover, many now recruit directly from the universities and a whole generation of landscape architecture students is drawn to work for these firms. This new generation is destined to spend a career as glorified draftsmen or cheap labor, abandoning future possibilities as full professionals in their own country where they are needed.

Many of these foreign firms offer planning, urban design and landscape architecture up to design development stage. Locals are often called in late in the process and given directives to 'just follow' the schemes prepared by these foreign firms. What is discovered in a good number of these designs is that the local cultural use of spaces is unknown or misunderstood, token nods to local aesthetics are made, usually by lifting patterns from local sourcebooks but without understanding the context of the Philippines and its multicultural ethnicity. Manila and many other regional centers of growth are seeing copies of landscapes imported almost wholly from abroad. The results are borrowed landscapes with no cultural specificity or real sense of place.

Philippine landscape architecture and Filipino landscape architects are not averse to ideas from other shores. In cases allowed by local laws, collaborative work is welcome. What Filipino practitioners want to express to fellow professionals in other countries, and whose associations are members of IFLA, is that we prefer to work in an environment of mutual professional respect.

Filipino landscape architects work within legal and professional frameworks in other countries. They are valued employees in many firms overseas because of their creativity and dedication to their work. Many come home wanting to join those still here, and hoping to help evolve local landscape architecture. They, we, hope to design Filipino landscapes for Filipinos—the green spaces and settings for modern private and communal lives, landscapes that are global in outlook, sustainable in growth, but proudly local in cultural flavor and soul.



Philippine landscapes and cityscapes are turning into settings borrowed from the west with little social or cultural flavor.

South Australian Commission for Integrated Design (SACID)

Paul Harding

AILA

Late in 2009, on South Australia's Proclamation Day holiday, Premier Mike Rann announced that his Labor Government would establish a South Australian Commission for Integrated Design (SACID). Unfortunately, the announcement went largely unnoticed by many, due to the timing amidst the festive holiday season. However, the news did not go unnoticed by Adelaide's design professions, including the Australian Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA), who welcomed the initiative.

The development of an *Integrated Design Strategy* and the establishment of an Integrated Design Commission were among a number of recommendations proposed by South Australia's Thinker in Residence, Professor Laura Lee[1] in 2009. The timing of the SACID announcement coincides with the release of the *Adelaide 30 Year Plan* by the Department of Planning and Local Government (DPLG) and should serve as a catalyst for the re-engagement of the State Government in the planning of urban development in South Australia.

In his announcement the Premier stated that the future of urban design is not just about "the better design of buildings, but the spaces in between them", which highlighted an opportunity for landscape architects to contribute to the establishment of the SACID. Although the terms of reference and details of governance are yet to be determined, the AILA considers that the establishment of a collaborative group with the multidisciplinary vision to develop a truly sustainable city will be vital to the success of this initiative.

A letter of support was forwarded to the Premier by the AILA, SA Group following the announcement, and copied to Laura Lee with very positive responses received from both parties. The AILA also offered its support to the AIA, which worked in close collaboration with the Thinker in Residence during her time in Adelaide.

[1] refer http://www.thinkers.sa.gov.au/llee.html

A meeting was arranged with representatives of Adelaide's design professions, including the Design Institute of Australia (DIA), The Planning Institute of Australia (PIA), the AIA and the AILA. This was to discuss ways of moving forward as a united group prior to meeting for an update on the process with Greg Mackie of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, who has responsibility for the pre-establishment phase of the Commission.

During her residency, Prof Laura Lee defined Intelligent Investment as a process that values collaborative, multi-disciplinary decision making to drive innovation, build communities and expand opportunities.

It is considered that South Australia's size advantage leads to a greater potential for collaboration. This has indeed been the case in the redevelopment of the Adelaide Zoo by Hassell, an original Adelaide collaborative, multi-disciplinary design institution. In speaking at the opening of the new Adelaide Zoo facilities and entrance, project architect and President of the AIA, Tim Horton paid tribute to his colleague and landscape architect, Sharon Mackay, and the "blur between architecture and landscape architecture" on the project.

Tim added that "the entrance is inspired by its parkland setting, and is landscape-driven. Living walls and green roofs provide new habitat for native species and provide a platform for research and knowledge, underpinned by water sensitive urban design".

Mr Horton credited the Adelaide Zoo redevelopment with setting an example of "successfully integrating the simultaneous and overlapping processes of design, research, change management and community engagement, supported by government and industry partnership [and that] is what Integrated Design aims to achieve."

I believe that the enthusiasm and high regard that has greeted the AILA's involvement in the establishment of the SACID is a direct response to the advocacy work and collaborative research that has been undertaken by the AILA National Office, particularly with the CSIRO and the Built Environment Design Profession (BEDP) in developing the *Australian Landscape Principles* and the *Sustainable Settlements Policy*.

It would seem that the hard work is paying off and that the time for landscape architects to have "a seat at the table" is now. Jim Sinatra's challenge at the close of the 2009 AILA National Conference in Melbourne that "by 2011, every Australian state should have a State Landscape Architect" may be coming close to a reality in South Australia!







Images of the Adelaide Zoo's new entry and green wall courtesy Tim Horton of Hassell's Adelaide office

SEACHANGE Sydney Harbour

A global sea level rise challenge

Adam Hunter

Environmental Partnership NSW



For many, both locals and visitors alike, Sydney Harbour defines its city. The harbour is pivotal to the city's self image and engenders a sense of pride and ownership in Sydney residents from Bondi to Penrith.

The flooded valleys of the harbour and its tributaries shape a pattern of bays and headlands that support a diverse environment from structured urban waterfront to remnant and regenerated natural habitat. The harbour is the setting for the city's most recognizable icons. Its foreshore parklands are coveted destinations for relaxation, exercise, family picnics, walking and fishing, and a Sydney Ferry ride is an important item on any first time visitor's agenda.

Most residents would acknowledge that the last 20 years have seen major changes on the harbour. Post-industrial foreshore lands created by the decentralization of industry and relocation of many shipping functions, has seen redevelopment of these areas, some positive, some not.

From the 1970's and the work of Sydney "bush school' champions such as Bruce Mackenzie to recent urban foreshore parklands of this decade, the work of landscape architects has a long standing and intrinsic link to the harbour and the foreshores. It is in this context of connection to the harbour that Sydney looks to the impending challenges of climate change and the impacts of sea level rise. The NSW group of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) will shortly be announcing an international ideas competition *SEACHANGE Sydney Harbour 2030-2100*.

AILA NSW looks forward to collaboration with its international colleagues on this exciting and important climate change initiative to help guide the future-proofing of Sydney Harbour, and provide innovative models for urban waterway adaptation.

What is the Competition?

It is an international ideas competition that aims to positively engage in thinking about the future of Sydney Harbour framed by changing climate. Sydney is in a unique position to tackle climate change and see the benefits of being an "early adapter" and world leader in climate-friendly thinking.

Why Sydney Harbour?

Sydney's iconic harbour is a globally significant stage for major events. The harbour provides a great platform to engage positive thinking about the city's shared futures that can be communicated as a model for adaptation for urban waterways including other Australian and international coastal cities.

Who is the competition for?

As adaptation to climate change will affect everyone, the organisers will be inviting submissions from professionals, primary, secondary and university students as well as organizations who are interested in policy development in this area.

How will positive change be created?

The AILA would like to see Sydneysiders become "early adapters" to climate change. Through engagement with climate adaptation the competition aims to explore the new types of partnerships that will be required to adapt to our new climate. SEACHANGE aims to get people thinking beyond the current focus on mitigation.

When will it happen?

Competition launch is early April 2010 with winners to be announced in July. The launch and winners announcements will coincide with special events aimed at attracting widespread media interest in the ideas generated by the competition.

Who will be on the jury?

An expert panel includes international, national and leading local landscape architects, climate scientists, harbour managers, ecologists, climate adaptation researchers, educators and publishers.

New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects

Alan Titchener

NZILA IFLA Delegate

The New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects (NZILA) was formed in 1973 and became a member of IFLA the following year. The NZILA currently has just over 500 members, of whom 180 are Corporate Members (Life Members, Fellows and Associates). There are 262 Graduate Members and 79 Student Members. The current President of the NZILA is Dennis Scott. He operates a private practice based in New Zealand's largest city, Auckland, and also teaches part-time as an Adjunct Professor at Unitec, one of three tertiary institutions that provide professional level courses in landscape architecture in NZ.

The oldest landscape architecture school in New Zealand, based at Lincoln University near Christchurch (the largest city in the South Island), recently celebrated the 40th anniversary of its establishment in 1969. The current Head of the School of Landscape Architecture at Lincoln is Neil Challenger. He is the son of Charlie Challenger, who was largely responsible for establishing the first course at Lincoln, and is considered the "Father of the Profession" in this country. There are now three schools of landscape architecture in NZ, the third being located at Victoria University in the capital city, Wellington. All three schools are monitored by the NZILA through a Course Accreditation Committee that liaises with the respective Schools and their parent universities.

Recently, (2009) members of the NZILA voted in favour of the introduction of a mandatory registration system which, after ratification in April 2010, will require all Corporate members to undertake regular continuing professional development (CPD), and all Graduate members to work towards their professional practice examination. A voluntary registration system was in place previously, but the change will make it obligatory for all members to participate in an approved CPD programme.

In New Zealand, the title "Registered Landscape Architect" is not enshrined in legislation, unlike the term "Registered Architect" which is protected by an Act of Parliament. The government has indicated an unwillingness to extend the same level of protection to landscape architects, a move which is seen as being contrary to the best interests of consumers in a free market economy. The cost of lobbying the government to change this position is considered prohibitive at this time. The use of the term "Registered NZILA Landscape Architect", however, can only be used by a Registered member of the NZILA. This serves as an adequate means of differentiation between landscape practitioners who might wish to capitalise on the use of the descriptor "landscape architect" whilst not being academically qualified to do so.

Not all qualified landscape architects in NZ are members of the NZILA. It is estimated that there may be as many as a further 500 landscape architects who prefer for various reasons not to become (or continue to be) members of the Institute. Some encounter difficulties obtaining regular work as a landscape architect, some go overseas and lose touch with the profession here, some move into more managerial or administrative roles, and others move into another vocation altogether. However, for those who do retain membership of the NZILA, the Institute provides a hugely valuable mechanism for dealing collectively with the best interests of landscape and landscape architects at a national scale. The NZILA runs a biennial Awards programme, convenes an annual Conference and contributes equally with the Landscape Industries Association towards the cost of publishing a magazine entitled "Landscape Architecture New Zealand".

The NZILA makes submissions on legislation and community regulations and by-laws at central, regional and local government level whenever issues arise that are of significance to the profession. An active Branch structure is intended to ensure the profile of the profession is maintained in the regions. A number of special interest groups provide a focus for more specialised activity, including a Cultural Heritage Landscape Group and a High Country Landscape Group. A recent development has been the establishment of a Māori Landscape Architects Group as a subset of a collective of Māori Design Professionals known as Nga Aho, which is a separate but related organisation from the NZILA. (Māori are the indigenous people of Aotearoa / New Zealand).

The profession in New Zealand can now be considered mature. Landscape architects are respected for the skills and expertise they bring to the planning, design and management of landscapes throughout the country. Increasingly, landscape architects are taking lead roles in major projects and are considered essential members of multi-disciplinary teams.

The inclusion of recognition of outstanding natural features and landscapes as a Matter of National Importance in the Resource Management Act in 1991 has ensured that landscape architects have had a key role to play alongside planners in the way resources are used and managed in New Zealand.

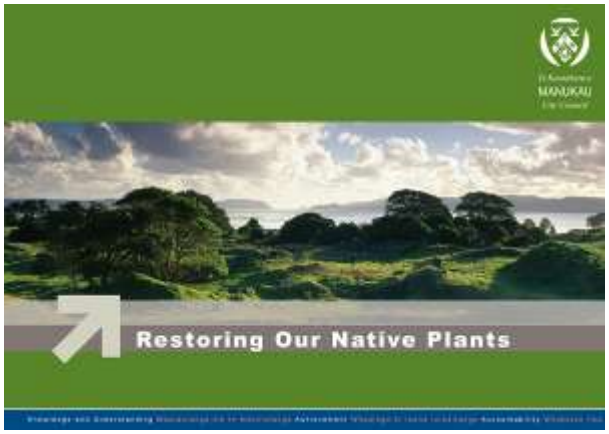


Isthmus in association with Studio Pacific Architecture. Kumutoto Wharf Development, Wellington. Photo: Simon Devitt

Developers identify win-win situations by involving landscape architects in the planning and design of projects, rather than seeing fish-hooks, impediments and obstacles.

The importance of renewable electricity generation, particularly from wind energy, has seen landscape architects becoming involved as experts on the landscape and visual effects of wind farms on the landscape, on both sides of the fence, i.e. either in support of specific aspects of a development, or in opposition. Relatively new production enterprises such as oyster farms typically require landscape and visual assessment as part of the approval and monitoring process.

The quality of urban design in the towns and cities of New Zealand has improved immensely in recent years, facilitated in part by the establishment of a New Zealand Urban Design Protocol. Two of New Zealand's leading landscape architecture firms, Boffa Miskell Limited and Isthmus, have been largely responsible for setting the standard and a number of smaller companies are also producing high quality landscape work.



Manukau City Council Restoration Planting Guidelines: Restoring Our Native Plants (by Boffa Miskell Limited)

Most cities in New Zealand now have landscape teams of their own, responsible for most local council design work and monitoring and influencing the work of others in the consideration of resource consent applications. There is no shortage of excellent landscape architecture work undertaken in New Zealand. Two Supreme Awards from the 2008 NZILA / Resene Pride of Place Awards (www.nzila.co.nz/awards_archive.asp) are illustrated.

The author acknowledges the assistance of Melanie Whittaker, Executive Officer for the NZILA, in the preparation of this article.

Harmony and Prosperity
Traditional Inheritance and Sustainable Development

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