



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I ime flies; as the year approaches its end, it is time for recuperation and reflection. PAMSC has been fortunate to have many individuals volunteering to ensure the continuity and sustainability of the organisation. The Past Chairmen and their committees have established a structure for their successors to build on. We owe much to these members who have contributed selflessly for PAMSC. It is a gallant task to attempt to exceed the predecessors by coming up with new ideas for the betterment of PAMSC. While holding the fort, we also have to rethink our role among the architectural fraternity and in the society to ensure that PAMSC remains relevant as our practice conditions become more complex and challenging.

We are constantly engaging with the relevant government agencies to improve related policies. The Practice and Government Liaison subcommittee has submitted a proposal to review the Sarawak Building Ordinance 1997 to the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development. They are also reviewing, with BOMBA, on fire protection and prevention sections to prepare a draft by the end of 2016.

To keep up with the reputation of the most active PAM Chapter in Malaysia, the various sub-committees have organised events to roll out more than 40 CPD points in 2015. WAD 5.0 was the key event that started with a design workshop for students and members, culminating in a public installation at Padang Merdeka.

It was encouraging to see the involvement of younger members in our Events & CPD and Education & Graduate sub-committees. Hopefully their outreach programmes will sow the seed of appreciation for our built environment among youth in schools and colleges. They are the future bulwark in ensuring that our city will be a better place to live. To engage the public further, we are organising free public lectures to promote art, culture and architecture with MBKS. This is supported by PAM Vice President, Ar. Ang Chee Cheong, who helped to bring over some of the renowned international speakers at the Design Lecture Series in KL to Kuching. Additionally, we have sponsors committed to delivering 4 public lectures from November 2015 to August 2016.

Lastly, just a note to mention that the renovation of PAMSC Centre is on schedule. The Secretariat has created inventories of the items in the premise for permanent storage in the newly-completed document store. The white board and projecting screen have been relocated to the space between two windows of the existing seminar room. A new HD projector has also been installed. Members should be able to attend CPD talks in this space by the end of 2015.

I wish our members, supporters and Industrial Partners a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in advance. Do spend quality time with your family and friends during the festive seasons.

Cheers.

Mike Boon PAMSC Chairman 2015-16

EDITOR'S LETTER

Fostering

ime of the year to take stock and set new resolutions - we should end the year on a high note. And decided to focus this issue of the subject of 'fostering'. What is fostering? The OED defines fostering as -

"to encourage the development of something desirable,"
 "to bring up (as one's own)".

When we add the word 'out' to fostering - the act reverses itself as fostering up means relinquishing the rights to one's own (usually a child).

In architecture, we do this more often than we are aware. Don't we, at the end of each project, relinquish hold of our offspring and foster them out into another's care? How well they behave after that depends on the amount of care we have put into their creation and development. Projects designed with good affordance 'teach' their users how to use and get the most of them. And like children, we are sometimes glad to see the badly-behaved ones go (though we will never admit this).

The normal type of architectural fostering takes place when an architect-mentor takes on younger members of the profession to guide and nurture - through the course of a project or in the process of building up a working partnership. We meet with Ar. Simon Woon of Perunding Dayacipta appears to do just this, INTERSECTION met with him to hear his plans about sharing his practice and expertise with new young partners. Fostering succession. PAMSC did their share of fostering this quarter; working with architecture students in yet another PAMSC 24-hour Design Workshop; this time in Sibu with University College of Technology Sarawak (UCTS) and Kolej Laila Taib (KLT). While at PAMSC's World Architecture Day (WAD) celebrations, Ar. Chai Si Yong takes on a more physical endeavour - to construct the WAD 2015 Pavilion, with student volunteers from LimKokWing Institute of Creative Technology (LICT), and strong support from AMCAN and Plaza Merdeka. The event was video recorded and posted in the PAMSC website.

Our regular contributors, Nora Khalid and Tay Tze Yong talks about their passions and specialties; BIM and architectural education while steady Bong Joon Hin of the Practice Sub-committee bring us up to speed on their activities and achievements. In our 'Food for Thought' column, we re-visit the Habitat Borneo Blitz Build Village to discover why the house partners have not moved in after more than 14 months.

And finally - we congratulate Tay Buang Chuan for winning a Mention in the recent MIID Awards and feature his project in this final issue of the 2016.



PAMSC raised more than RM 2000 for the SSPCA (Animals) in their annual running event.

See you next year. Min "Everything is architecture", a saying Luca Galofaro lives by - putting something that would not normally be considered a building in a situation where it would be considered architecture. Galofaro's key to architecture is simple - to anticipate the future, you need to create conditions while giving shape to the reality of present. He does his research with images by playing with old postcards and modern magazines, a mixture between tradition and contemporary and applies this to his work in Rome where it is nearly impossible to touch historical buildings, but he believes that with the right concepts, you are able to maintain, preserve and improve an existing building.

Luca Galofaro's lecture "An Atlas of Imagination" Is the first of a public design lecture series initiated by PAMSC. It was brought to Kuching by PAMKL in the person of Ar. Ang Chee Cheong with support from UGI and EcoSteel. PAMSC worked closely with the Kuching South City Council (MBKS) to bring this lecture to members of the public by announcing it in the local papers and holding it at MBKS. About 200 people turned up for the talk, about one-third of whom were members of the general public. PAMSC believes that the public should learn about good design and architecture – that architecture is not only for special occasions and people, but for every day and everyone.

Text by **Sara Wee** Photo by **Kao Choo**

Luca Galofaro



EcoSteel and UGI were the events sponsors - they were represented by Ir. Mei, who talked about their strong design partnership with Sarawakian architects.



Ar. Ang Chee Cheong from PAMKL initiated a series of public lectures in KL themed: 'Scenarios and Situations' - Luca is one of the guest speakers.



The speaker, Luca Galofaro with PAMSC Vice Chairman Bong Joon Hin (to his right) and committee members.



After the talk, Luca was swarmed by members of the audience wanting photographs and autographs.

Perunding Dayacipta – Fostering Succession

Carlier this year, **INTERSECTION** found out that **Ar. Simon Woon**, the principal or **Perunding Dayacipta** has made plans for the succession of his practice, for several young architects to take on new responsibilities in the next chapters of this well established architectural practice.

We interviewed Simon for this article on fostering succession.

SW : Ar. Simon Woon I : INTERSECTION

I: Tell us a little about yourself and Dayacipta?

SW: I graduated with my Bachelor of Architecture from Melbourne University in 1979, and returned in 1980 to work with J.K.R. Sarawak as was the trend in those days. I worked there from 1981 to 1983 before leaving to join United Consultants in 1984. In 1985, I joined Chew Chung Yee in Perunding Dayacipta.

I have been the Principal of Perunding Dayacipta since 1985.

I: Who were your earlier influences?

SW: Two persons – the first was my father; a humble person with simple needs who could be depended upon to look out for others; be it family members, friends or strangers. He would always go out of his way to help someone that needed help. The second was my Taekwondo Master whom I studied under during my university days. I obtained my Black Belt in Taekwondo in Australia and stayed back to teach it prior to returning to Malaysia in 1980.

I will always remember his parting words to me before I left Melbourne: "To be a master of anything, you must first be a master of yourself".

I: Do these principles guide you in your profession and private life?

SW : I have always been professional in the way I do my work; and tried to instill this sense of professional pride in the way we design and create an environment that our clients and their consumers will be happy in. I believe in building relationships based on Trust – with my clients, my staff, contractors and other consultants.

At work and life -1 give without expecting favours in return; I believe that you must do it because you want to and not because you want recognition for your actions.

I: You are in your sixties, yet you have not thought of retiring, why?

SW: I have thought of retiring, from time to time. But as sole principal of Dayacipta, I have an obligation towards my staff; especially since half of them have been with me for more than 20 years. They are like members of my family; sticking with me through good times and bad.

Also, I have built Perunding Dayacipta into a reputable firm with more than 30 years of experience on a large variety of projects. It would be such a waste to close it down when it comes time for me to retire.

This is why I thought that Perunding Dayacipta could continue in a new format – combining an established team with the benefits of 30 years of experience with the youthful energy and fresh ideas, to deliver quality designs that cater to the current trends.



Simon Woon

Wong Siew Ling Chai Si Yong

Tay Tze Yong

Next, **INTERSECTION** conducted an interview of **Perunding Dayacipta Design Group**'s new partners: **Wong Siew Ling, Chai Si Yong** and **Tay Tze Yong** by asking them to say a few words about their new venture.

Wong Siew Ling

I have always been governed by order and continuity in my career and I found these qualities at Dayacipta, which is why I have been and am truly content here. In the next chapters of this practice, I hope to propagate a culture of care through our practice of architecture. Care for the less fortunate in our community, care for the community through teaching and mentoring of the youth and care for our professional and personal families.

Chai Si Yong

I first learnt about Dayacipta back in 1992, when I worked for my father who was a printer who supplied stationery to office. When Simon found out through my father that I was studying architecture, he offered me internship position during my 2nd year. That was my first experience working as an 'architect' and am still applying the many skills learned from my internship at Dayacipta.

After graduation, I started my career in KL and worked there for 4 years before returning to Kuching in 2009. I still remember that day when Tay (Tze Yong) and I met with Simon and Siew Ling over dinner to talk about collaborating on a few design competitions in Kuching. Since then, Tay and I have worked closely with Siew Ling on a few community projects and design workshops. This has allowed me to "reconnect" with Dayacipta and understand the "good architecture" practice standards that they adhere to.

Tay Tze Yong

I started working as an intern at Dayacipta back in 2000, and ever since then, we have been inseparable. Siew Ling is always the sifu to me; I refer him as 'Master Wong' who is passionate about passing his architecture 'chi' to me. It is a fruitful year for me, greatly influencing me in the pursuit of my tertiary education at RMIT.

When I was at the cross roads of my career, Simon was there as my 'guardian angel' support me in my decision to look for work first in KL. Later when I decided to return to Kuching for good, he joyfully welcomed me to be back to Dayacipta. In 2009, I decided to set up my own design practice; again Simon was encouraging in his personal and financial support. I am very excited about this new venture; I am looking forward to re-contributing back to Dayacipta.

On that note, the team at INTERSECTION wish Simon and his team all the best in their new venture.

PROJECTS The team have worked on a number of projects together and we can expect them to build many more in the future. Here is a sample...



The Indoor Stadium at Kota Samarahan, completed in 2005, was designed as an icon at the new civic masterplan. The external coloured louvers was the main component of the design that encouraged natural and closed ventilation. The stadium is naturally ventilated internally.

Sampadi Beach House

The design for Sampadi beach house was developed with the idea of 'secret garden' within the individual units. The planning and design of the courtyard garden is integrated as part of the design, with full and partial enclosure, internal and externally.



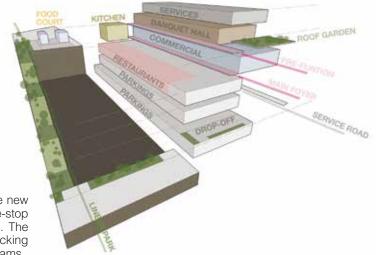
Internal and external courtyard gardens are inserted within the house and in between the neighbor lots; Pool and terraces are oriented to maximize the visual connectivity the sea.

The Banquet Hall

The banquet hall with commercial at Airport Road was designed to create new corporate image for client's long run of business in the industry. It is a one-stop f&b centre, which includes food court, restaurants and the banquet hall. The proposed site is long and narrow in shape; the proposed programs are stacking linearly and vertically with the insertion of roof garden in between the programs.











Anna Wong 012-8088113





Melissa Chong 012-8869811

Nurturing Young Minds

Tay Tze Yong is a practicing architect who also tutors in his spare time. He teaches the senior semesters at the LIMOKWING Institute of Creative Technology and has done so for a number of years now. His students tell me that his is a different way to teaching; often electing to tutor them from his office studio, opting to listen more than talk and to question more than tell. His project briefs are often unique – asking to the students to seek solutions to problems that are inherent in our society but un-seen (and un-solved) because they are often un-noticed after years of putting up with it. The following is a typical sample of an assignment from him.



Figure 1: Alfred Yap's documentray of fried chicken stall at Wayang Street; explored on the food cart set-up and its relationship to the five foot way of the old shophouses along Wayang Street.

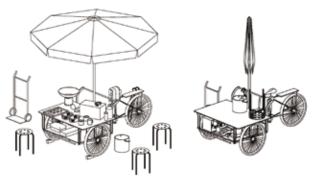


Figure 2: Before and after set-up (method of assembling and dismantling)

Exploring and Exploding / Finding the unfamiliar in the familiar

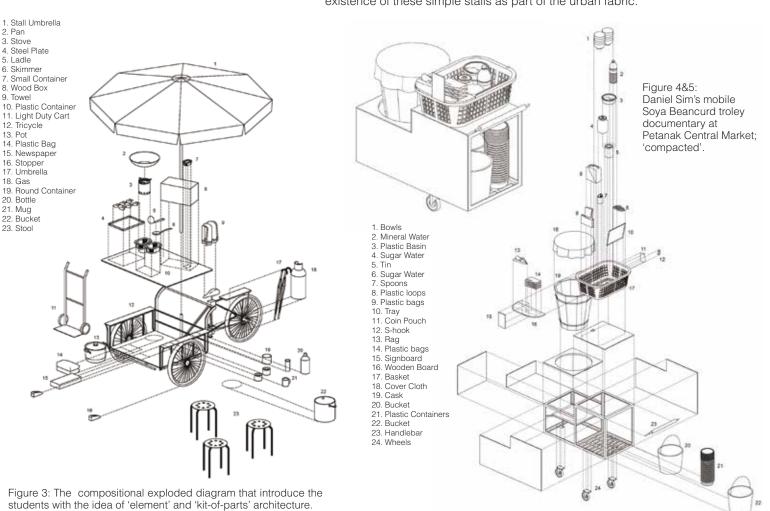
"What is familiarly known is not properly known just for the reason that it is familiar"

G.W.F. Hegel, Phenomenology of Spirit, 1807

Tay explains:

"These were small projects are part of my design studio projects – they focus on urban 'familiarity' and 'temporariness'. Students were required to record food carts or mobile stalls at the familiar street corners - to document and analyze the assigned area and the surrounding context; placement of stalls, how stalls are connected to the pedestrian, the street, and the vehicles; details of the stalls and its set up, including method of food preparation.

The works are not intended as the measured drawing type of documentary; instead they explore and present a set of relationships between familiar and unfamiliar. This is intended to inspire the students to be sensitive to our urban fabric and culture, to record and document in an analytical and systematic manner; to place value in the existence of these simple stalls as part of the urban fabric."





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Events Sub-Committee

Fostering the next generation

PAMSC has actively initiated events for architecture students – this year we organized 2 design workshops followed by PAMSC's World Architecture Day (WAD) celebrations.

The main objectives of these events are:

- for architecture students to benefit from their interaction with practicing architects
 for architects to nurture the next generation of our
- for architects to number the next generation of our profession
 for the young ones to learn to work with their peer
- for the young ones to learn to work with their peers and produce design results within a short span of time
- and in the case of the WAD exhibition, the students can participate in the construction of one of their own designs.

WAD 5.0

In July, we held a 24-hour design workshop at the LimKokWing Institute of Technology (LICT) – the winning scheme from this workshop would be built as PAMSC's WAD pavilion. The pavilion was designed to commemorate Tom Harrison – who was instrumental in making the Sarawak Museum 'an institution of world standing'. As such, the location of the pavilion at the north end of the Central Padang was specially apt.

PAMSC was fortunate to have the support of AMCAN; who provided the material (roofing and G.I. framing) and expertise for the construction of the pavilion, DBKU; for their consent for our use of the location for one month, Merdeka Plaza; for the launching venue within their shopping mall, LICT; for their student volunteers who assisted in building the pavilion and exhibition, Louise Macul; museum expert who curated the Tom Harrison exhibition and Hui Joo; for assembling the display panels.

The following photographs record the events leading from inception to construction to launching and exhibition.



Translating the competition entry into a build-able installation, with curated exhibition material by Louise and Hui Joo.



Student volunteer started the 'build' at the AMCAN factory and continued on the Merdeka Padang, at times braving poor weather to finish the installation before the first Monday in October (WAD).





Organising Chairman of WAD, Chai Si Yong (left) launched the event with our event partners; LICT and AMCAN.



After the launch, the team and volunteers were able to relax and take stock of their handi-work.

INTERSECTION would like to thank Dato Steve Ng – Plaza Merdeka, Mr. Lim and Mr. Ting – AMCAN, Mr. Alan Goh – LICT, Ms. Louise Macul, Ms. Chen Hui Joo and the organizing Chairman for WAD – Ar. Chai Si Yong.

Practice & Goverment Liason Sub-Committee

A) Reviewing of Sarawak Building Ordinance (SBO)

Chairman Ar. Mike Boon, Ar. Stephen Liew, Ar. Bong Joon Hin and Ar. Chai Si Yong paid a courtesy visit to the Director of Bomba, Sarawak Tuan Nor Hisham bin Mohamad on the 19 th October, 2015. Tuan Nor had earlier agreed to work with PAM Sarawak Chapter on the reviewing of SBO. This is part of PAMSC's efforts to seek consent to liaise with the various authorities to review relevant sections of the SBO. Todate, the Chapter has forwarded a draft review on the Building Requirement Sections to the Ministry.

B) Planning Issues

Department of Land & Survey requested feedback from PAM members on the Extensions of Landed Residential Building, but there is little response from members. Please forward your comments and suggestions to PAMSC so we may convey them to the relevant authorities.

C) Housing

i) Dialogue with Housing Tribunal

The Housing Tribunal informed that there are three (3) major complaints usually received from the purchasers workmanship, late delivery of vacant possession and certification. Members are advised to take note and ensure that the above points are considered when supervising and certifying housing projects.

ii) Housing Master Plan 2016 - 2035

Universiti Teknologi Mara was engaged by the Ministry of Housing to prepare a proposal on Housing Masterplan 2016 – 2035, which looked into the issues such as design, construction methods, informal housing sector, affordable housing, density, unitsizes and affordability, etc.

D) The Workforce Development Unit under Chief Ministers Department of Sarawak is looking into Single Progression System (SPS) to give accreditation workers with specific skill sets acquired from work experience.

The Workforce Development Unit under Chief Minister's Department of Sarawak is looking into Single Progression System (SPS) to give accreditation workers with specific skill sets acquired from work experience. Our Practice Committee has participated in various dialogues and workshops conducted by the authorities, and we urge our members to forward their views and proposals to us so that we may provide a more comprehensive feedback to the authority involved.



Courtesy visit to the Director of Bomba Sarawak.



Dialogue with Housing Tribunal.

Sibu 24 – Design Workshop

This is the second of our Design Workshops- which involved 116 students from University College of Technology, Sibu and Kolej Laila Taib.

FRIDAY



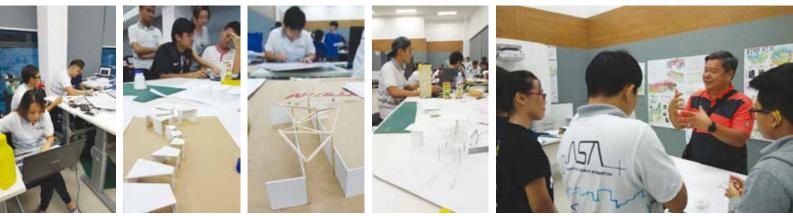
Presentation by one of the event sponsors, UGI Sdn Bhd's CEO Mr. Alex Law. Briefing of students on workshop theme - "Architecture & Pedagogy".



The event started with a series of lectures by some of the workshop leaders - Ar. Ng Chee Wee, Ar. Chai Si Yong and Ar. Wee Hii Min.



SATURDAY



Studio sessions started at 8:00am - 2 studios with groups of 4-6 students from different colleges and seniorities.



24-hour design workshops can be mentally and physically draining.





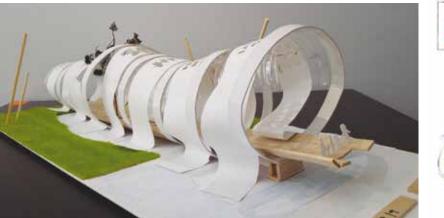




SUNDAY

8:00am. final pinup with presentation and critique. Shortlisting of final 6 groups for Q&A. 10:00am. 2nd round of interviews and final judging.









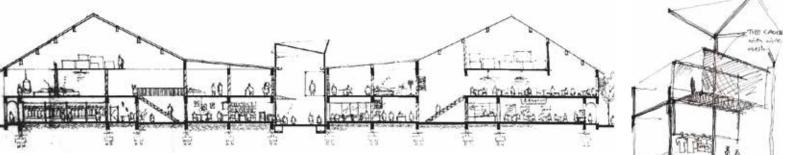


Healing

Memory Lane

Moving Forward

First Prize: Kampung Dato Pavilion Workshop Leader: Andy Wong Group Members: Nurashiqin (Leader), Ting Hua Siong, Goh Chiang Hock, Wong Yii Ting, Wee Xing Yi, Ling Lik Chai



Second Prize: Rejuvenation Of Sibu Old Shophouses' Back Alleys Workshop leader: Ar. Wee Hii Min

Group Members: Chan Lek Heng (Leader), Louis Sia Kee Leong, Ting Sie Giek, Tang Kok Huat, Nurshahirah Zainuddin, Wong Kah Yew



Third Prize: Swivel Bicycle Centre Workshop leader: Allen anak Lipan

Group Members: Amy Kong Kai Mee (Leader), Cassandra Kong, Sia Zheng Qing, Alexander Ng, Nurfareeza bt Nasyaruddin, Kong Chak Lung



PAMSC would like to thank UCTS, Kolej Laila Taib, UGI Products Sdn Bhd and the workshop leaders, Andy Wong, Wong Lin Tze, Oliver Allen Lipan, Clarence, Ng Chee Wee, Wee Hii Min, Sia Peh Swee, Leong Pik Shia, Chai Si Yong and Goh Tze Hui.

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Education & Graduate Sub-Committee

The Education & Graduates Sub-Committee was in full swing these couple of months!

Kolej Komuniti Kuching

An industry partnership with Kolej Komuniti Kuching is in the works to assist them in improving their drafting program in order to make their graduates more employable. We attended their Program Kerjaya Bersama Industri and Majlis Konvokesyen 2015, in later September.



(From right) Ar. Kho Meng K'ang with Puan Jamilah Shukri of SARANITA and the host at Kolej Komuniti Kuching.

Gunung Gading Hiking Trip

ive PAMSC members went to Gunung Gading National Park on Saturday, 14th November 2015 for a hiking trip.

The group set out on the Waterfall Trail at 8.30am, with a climbing elevation of about 300m before reaching the waterfall. Along the way, they managed to see a semibloomed Rafflesia – fitting to the Park's claim that it is one of the best places in Asia to view the flower.

The team enjoyed a dip at the waterfall, but had to make their way back as it started to rain around 11am. The hike was 5.7km in total. No outdoor trip would be complete without a meal, so the group stopped for lunch in Lundu and roamed the local market for fresh produce before heading back to Kuching.



Left to right: Michael Cheu, Yale Teo, Ar. Noraini, Kao Choo, Ar. Kho Meng K'ang.



Ar Andy Ngu at the Career Guidance Talk with St Joseph students.

Career Guidance

Ar. Kho Meng K'ang and Ar. Andy Ngu have been busy promoting architecture as a career to students at the Career Carnival organized by Institut Kimia Malaysia and Career Guidance Talk at SMK ST Joseph Kuching. PAMSC set up a booth for both events and had the opportunity to display works and photographs by students and offices across Sarawak.

CONGRATULATIONS!

NTERSECTION congratulates the three who passed their LAM Part 3 exams this round; (from left) Simon Ling, Alan Lau and Tina Lau. Well Done !



LAM Part 3 Exams

Un a different note, nine graduates attended a Q&A session facilitated by sub-committee members Ar. Noraini, Jasper Ling and Peggy Wong to discuss strategies in preparing for LAM Part 3 examinations. Log book and evaluation report requirements, reference materials, key areas of knowledge as well as an architect's rights and roles were among the topics reviewed during the session.

Report by Education Sub-committee Ms. Annie Narodden & Nora Khalid



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Beech

BIM PART III

ARE WE THERE YET?

"How do I know what a good model looks like, if I have never seen one before?"

This is where formal training (yes, the expensive one) comes in. At some point of your BIM journey, you will need someone to tell you what your output should look like and have it complying with certain standards.

As mentioned in the second installment, before you embark on your Pilot Project, you need to set up a realistic BIM goal for your team. It can be as simple as "being able to model the project in a BIM software", to more challenging ones such as "being able to do clash detection between architectural and C&S models".



Figure 1 Detecting structural clashes in your model in design development stage before it goes to construction. Source: McGraw-Hill.

The whole point of this exercise is that you should be able to track your progress (and that means your goals can be set higher for the next project) and see where you went wrong, should your goals not be achieved.

You are not expected to know everything about BIM by the time you are done with your Pilot Project.

However, based on your first BIM project experience, you can set a tips and tricks list that works as a guide for your BIM team. There is no one list fits all – you will need to understand the style

that works best for your team and the list will grow as you start to tackle more projects using BIM.

Below is a snippet of a checklist that I have developed on my own, which explains what I believe to be good practice before, during, and after wrapping up any Revit project.

There are many similar checklists available online for free, which you can use as a starting point to develop your own. I don't mind sharing my list with you as long as you ask nicely...

KEEP YOUR MODELS LEAN

Beware of providing too much information in your model – as some information may become redundant or simply not required. Items that are nonrepetitive and not required in detail drawings should only appear in the detail drawing sheets. A good example of this is modeling down to the fixing of nuts and bolts. It is common to find these items when you download components from the manufacturer's website, but it doesn't mean that you need them. Delete all unnecessary parts and purge before you bring them into your model.

Excessive modeling is a waste of manpower and can cause your computer to be sluggish. Note that software like Revit will keep backup files for when your current file gets corrupted. With the same file duplicated multiple times, you will be surprised how much space that will take up if you don't keep an eye on what you feed your model on a daily basis.

Keep a copy of the model as you reach different stages within conceptual design and construction, and ideally they are filed systematically in your server or on the cloud. Avoid storing the entire project model in a single workstation.

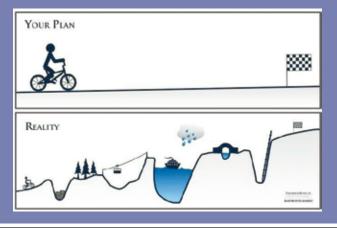
REVIT "GOOD PRACTICE" CHECKLIST

1. BEFORE STARTING A PROJECT

- Establish a documentation template text size, dimension styles, room tags, window and door tags
- Establish a library of standard families WC, sink, stove top, bath
- Familiarize yourself with the brief and be aware of any restrictions
- Understand the documentation scope of works
- Obtain the correct titleblock
- Obtain the drawing numbering system for the project
- Clean up (audit, purge, delete unnecessary details) your standard families so you don't have to do it later while working on the job.

2. WORKING ON A PROJECT

- De consistent in choosing repetitions in Rwit. For example, if you are using text 2.0mm Arial, use the text type for the entre project. Repetitive families such as windows, door, WC and shower should also remain consistent throughout the project unnels oftenewise specified in a torbealast.
- All rooms bounded by walls including wallk in robes are to be labeled with Room Tags
- Open areas such as affresco and passageway should be bounded by room separation lines and then tabeled with Room Tags.
- When drawing roof overhang lines in floor plan, use the <overhead> line with pick lines tool while the roof plan is set to 'underlay' in the floor plan. Once finished, set the underlay back to 'incred' and the overhaad lines will stay on the sheet.



MOVING FORWARD

It is understandable that clients aren't interested in the changes that your firm is undergoing – they only want to see the job done. So if you are in the midst of a Pilot Project and feel like BIM is adding too much pressure to the team, assess your strategies in achieving deliverables. Learning the tools and processes can't happen overnight. Hang in there !

by Nora Khalid

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Printer: WISMA PRINTING SDN BHD

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FOSTERING SEPETANG by Vivian Kuan. Sem 5. UCSI

'Kaktao46'^{*} is a renovation project to convert an old double storey timber building into a community space for the local kids and adults. It is located at Kuala Sepetang; a fishing village occupied by Chinese community who specialized in caged fish breeding. The project was led by Prof. Teoh Chee Keong from UCSI and Prof. Eric Chen from Chung Yuan Christian University (中原大学), Taiwan with a total of 60 students from both universities.

The project reversed the conventional way of construction; we had the freedom to decide on the design and method of construction with guidance from lecturers and the local community. No submission drawings, no final design decisions, except to respond to the site with the materials available – we were encouraged to 'learn design by doing'.

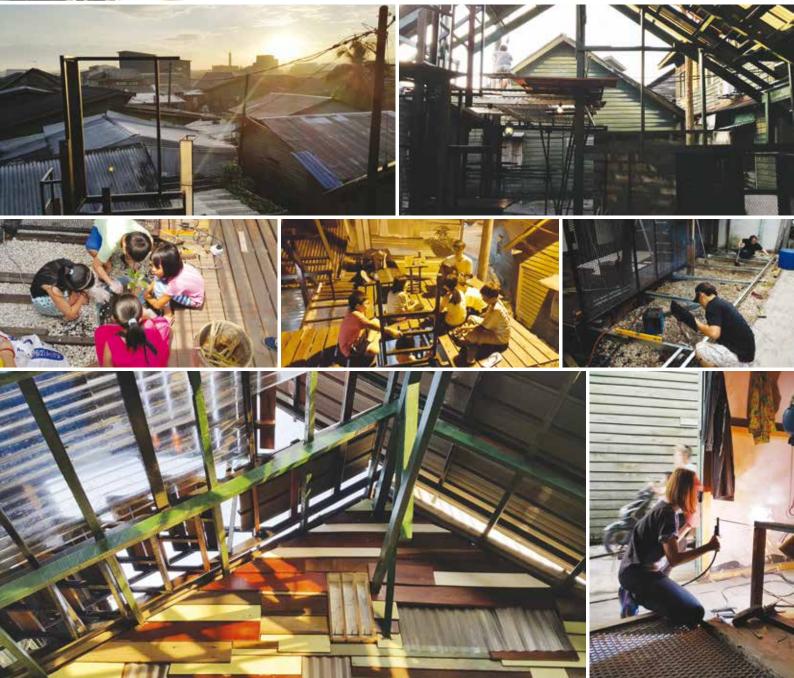
Clam shells on the floor, timber transported by boat coupled with mangrove trunks, this created a unique architectural space in response to the local environment of the fishing village.

At first, most of us thought it was an easy job without expecting that the work would be so tough; both mentally and physically exhausting. Working from day till night, handling the tools, piling by hand, welding, climbing on the roof, transporting materials by boat. These are skills and experiences that we would not have learned from staying in the studio doing design. Though the work was hard, we were encouraged by the locals and the knowledge that what we are building would have a great impact on the community.

Kaktao46 become a platform for students to get involved in real-life project, build the building by hand and design by doing. I was impressed by Prof. Eric Chen, when he said, "The building has no end. This building will keep on growing, it might not be noticeable, but the image of building may vary from time to time, due to the shadow cast, human activities or the materials."

And that's the beauty of architecture – boundary of the building should be the starting point rather than the end.

*KakTao – corner, usually in reference to corner lots, houses or shops (Hokkien); the site was at a corner and 46 its lot number.



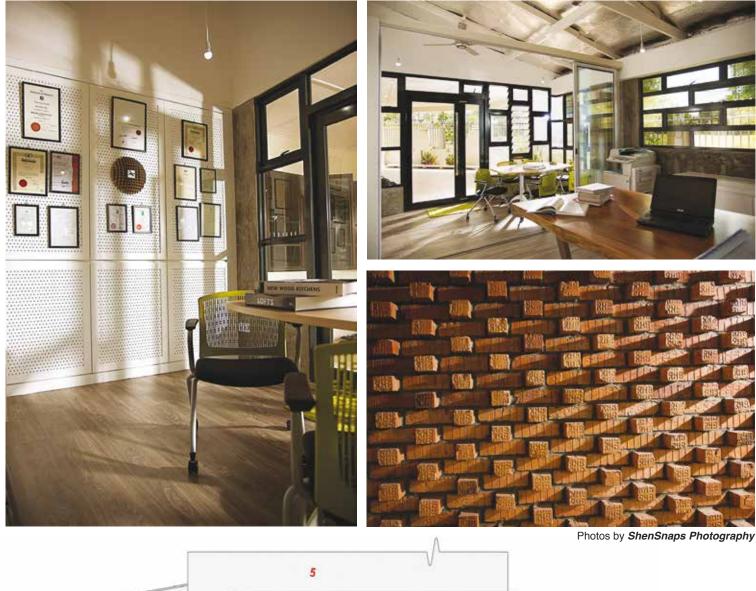


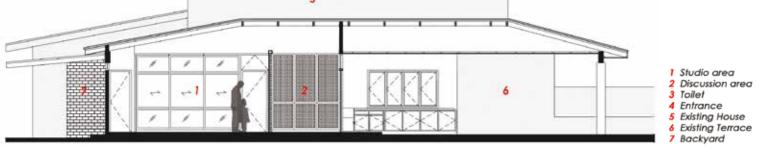
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Studio @ Home by BCTay Architect

This is a small studio-home concept, which allows a fully functional studio space and able to be transformed into a small discussion or reception area, as well as into a play area for children or place for gathering for friends and family during weekends or holidays. A simple, pragmatic and cost-effective solution, with the careful selection of the colour palette, materials and finishes. The challenge of the project perhaps would be how this space can be moulded seamlessly between a typical office and home.

The project received a Mention in the recent MIID Nippon Paint Reka Awards 2015 under the Adaptive Reuse Category.

Tay Buang Chuan was born in Kuching and went to SMK Green Road until Form 6. In 2002, he obtained his BSc. Arch (Hons) from University of Malaya and worked in KL for a while before pursuing and completing his B. Arch (Hons) in Melbourne University in 2005. He returned to Kuching and worked with United Consultant (2005-2007), Arkisigat (2007-2012) and a short spell with Arkitek Sinar Bina, before setting his own practice in 2012.

This badminton fanatic can be very aggressive in the front court. At other times however, he is quite easy going.



It's Christmas Time Again



his is Terry.

Full name Terry Henry Asun, his brother is Rio Ferdinand Radin. I met Terry and his family more than a year ago during the Habitat for Humanity Borneo Blitz Build (BBB) in September 2014. We were part of a team of volunteers from PAMSC to start and complete House 11 (Terry's house). Over the weeks before and during the build, we became friends and my wife, Sam promised him English tuition when he moves into his new home – just in time for his UPSR this year.

That promise was not kept.

Terry's family and 13 of their neighbours in this Habitat for Humanity (HfH) Global Village have not moved into their homes. Shortly after the fanfare of press coverage, and after the foreign volunteers* have gone back, construction slowed to a halt. I understand that the original plan was for the home owners to move in by Christmas 2014. To-date, most of the houses are near completion but the roads and drains are incomplete and as a result, water and power supply cannot be connected. When I wrote to HfH Kuching, they informed us that the engineering plans have not been approved. And that they expect the houses to be completed by June 2016. The remaining works, including some touching up works for the houses will be completed by contractors.

This is an extra 18 month wait.

When I met with HfH, they explained the events that caused the delay – a recalcitrant engineer appeared to be their biggest problem. It is curious that a committee of architects, engineers and lawyers were not able (or willing) to deal with the engineer more decisively. Rather have 14 families live in sub-standard houses for 18-months longer than change the engineer? What was their priority here? As I listened, I heard different priorities – worries about backlash from the sponsors of the BBB, the land donor wanting to know if his land will be put to good use. Only later in the conversation did the current situation of the home owners arise. The same 14 families will eventually occupy the houses and some of them have started paying already although they have not been told when they can occupy their homes.

I would have thought that your clients should be the first to be informed about the status of the project. That's right –clients. Habitat houses are not free; only the volunteer labour is free. The home-owners pay for their houses like any other house buyer. Some people seemed to have forgotten this little point.

* A HfH Global Village engages overseas volunteers to help build their houses, who contribute financially to the local affiliate as well.

Min



SNIPPETS

LATEST DESIGNS !

Congratulations to the proud parents of October and November babies especially the moms, well done Dona, Ms Sim, Yee Joe, Siew Lee, Siok Pheng, and Constance Yong.



(From left) Don Afraz, Dona Ageela & Don Sheraz D.O.B.: 19th April 2015 (Dona Ageela) Parents: Dona Rose & Royzaid



(From left) Jasmine, Jemy & Remy D.O.B.: 18th October 2015 (Jasmine) Parents: Wee Pei Chai & Sim Siok Pheng



Michael Ling Ryuxin D.O.B.: 30th October 2015 Parents: Jasper & Ms Sim



Scarlett Yap Yee Xi D.O.B.: 14th October 2015 Parents: Steven Yap & Constance Yong



Shu Young 书扬 & Shu Fun 书凡 D.O.B.: 12th October 2015 (Shu Fun) Parents: Tay Buang Chuan & Teh Yee Joe



Chai Yu Syang 蔡宇翔 D.O.B.: 6th November 2015 Parents: Chai Si Yong & Bong Siew Lee

Lean Construction Seminar

PAMSC was invited by Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) to attend a whole day Seminar on An Introduction to Lean Construction on 10 November 2015 at MPC Kuching. Others invited included Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) and Sarawak Housing and Real Estate Developers' Association (SHEDA). LEAN refers to a collection of principles and methods that focus on the identification and elimination of waste in any process; in this case Construction Process. 14 participants are divided for a role playing simulation game of 2 rounds using traditional and Lean process for comparison.



SMELLY TOILETS - Where? What? Is Fire Engineering Performance Who? When? How to eliminate? by Ir. Gary Lim Eng Hua

10 Oct 2015 (Saturday) Date: Time: 9am-12.30pm Venue: PAMSC CPD: 2 Attendance: 24 (4 non-member)



Based Design The Future? by Engr. Hao-giang Tay

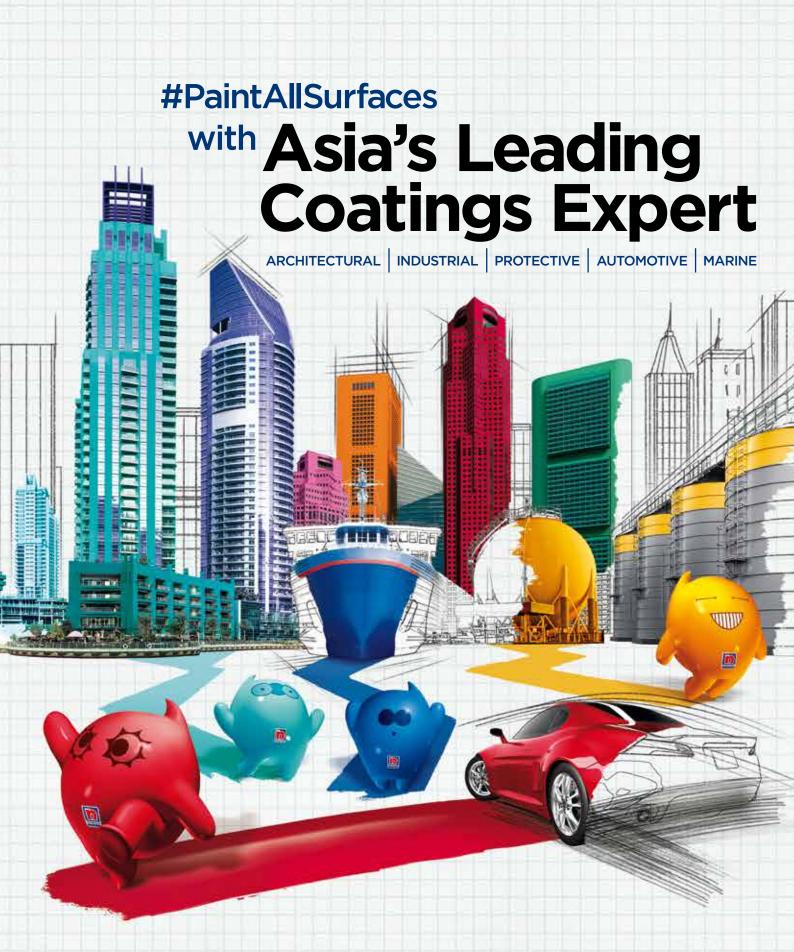
Date: 7 Nov 2015 (Saturday) Time: 9am-12.30pm Venue: Sarawak Club CPD: 2 Attendance: 35 (2 non-member)



Calling for contributions of articles in the next issue.

Next Year will be featuring a series of articles on innovative and interesting details in timber, steel, glass and concrete. So if you have one, please email it to info@pamsc.org.my or weehiimin@gmail.com







Scan me. It will make your day.



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