



Free Service for PAM Members on AutoCAD Full Version eSPA Customisation Plugins

Reported by Ar. Wong Ming Ming

PAMSC has set up a workstation equipped with AutoDesk AutoCAD Full Version and eSPA plugin at PAMSC Centre. We will open for Members' Firm to use the workstation **FREE OF CHARGE**. Please refer to our SOP on <https://pamsc.org.my/announcements/standard-of-procedure-sop-on-using-autocad-software-for-esp-plugin-at-pamsc-centre/> and email to [info at info@pamsc.org.my](mailto:info@pamsc.org.my) to make appointment, call PAMSC centre at 082-457182 if you have queries.

PAMSC Online Career Talk 2021

Reported by Ar. Brendan Tong

In line with our role of informing and promoting architecture as a career to the younger generation, PAMSC is organising a **FREE** online career talk targeting secondary school students all over Sarawak.

The event details are as follows:

Date : 02/10/2021 (Saturday)

Time : 10.00 am

Online Link : Zoom Webinar.

*Event link will be shared 3 days before the Event.

The Event Programme includes:

- **Architecture as a Profession** by Immediate Past Chairperson, Ar. Ivy Jong
- **Process of Applying and Obtaining Architectural Qualifications** by Mr. Mervyn Wong (Architect & Lecturer, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak)
- **Sharing the Student Experience** by students from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak and University of College Technology Sarawak
- Question and Answer session

Registration link will be made available on 15th September 2021 and for more info, please head to: <https://pamsc.org.my/>

Organised by the PAMSC Graduates Education and B.I.M Subcommittee

PAMSC Questionnaire on Internship Practical Training Program

Prepared by Ar. Kushahrin Sadikin Bin Kushairy and Ar. Awang Hasim Bin Awang Sulong

PAMSC is conducting a survey to get feedback from members on matters regarding Architectural students' Internship program.

The result of this survey will be compiled and treated as a database for local Universities to gauge the Sarawak Architectural Industry's requirements and demands on the Internship Program, and the results can be accessed via the PAMSC website.

We only require one person per practice/ firm/ department to answer the survey.

This survey will run from 30th August 2021 (Mon) to 30th September 2021 (Thur), therefore, we request you to kindly spend 2 minutes of your time answering all the questions.

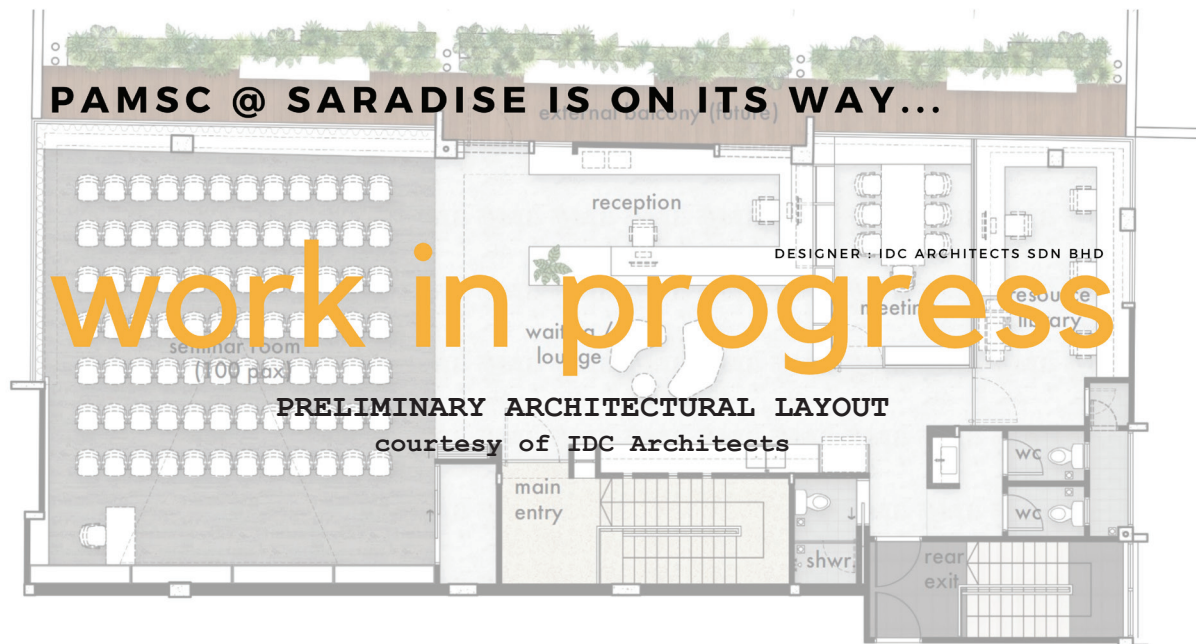
Please also indicate by email to info@pamsc.org.my if you would like your firm to be listed on PAMSC's website as potential employers for the internship program.

Kindly click at the link below to reach the questionnaire.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdaH7rJi5KOURgXFdxXyG2d7d1-9G40pm6bkF4N2BHMswMVLw/viewform>

New PAMSC Centre

Reported by Ar. Noraini Narodden,
PAMSC Building Subcommittee



PROGRESS / 2021

JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

Schematic and Design Development

Contract Documentation

Tendering Process

Construction Period



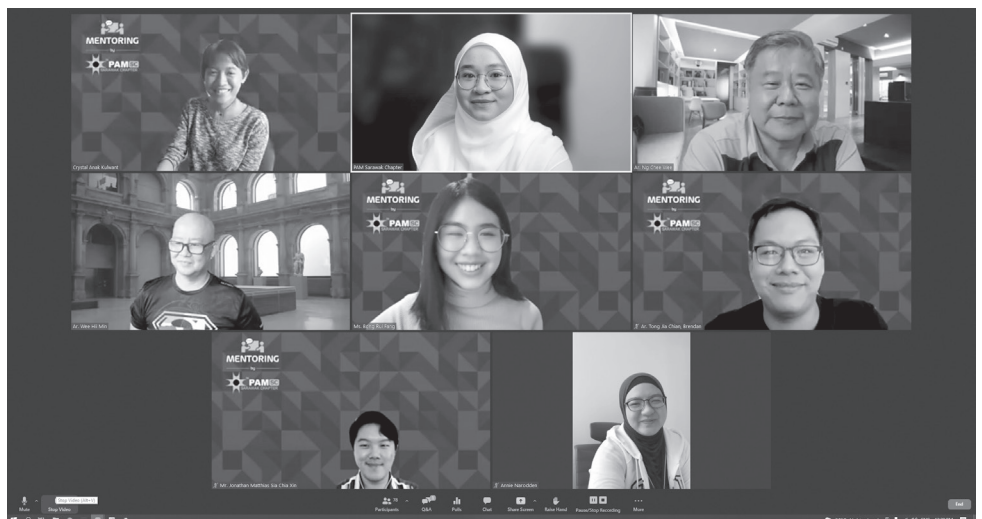
Target : PAMSC Centre ready on 22.02.2022

MENTORING by PAMSC

by Ar. Ng Chee Wee and Ar. Wee Hii Min

On the 21st of August, at 10 a.m. PAMSC hosted an online mentoring session, organized by Ar Brendan Tong (PAMSC Education Sub-committee) with co-opted student members from UCTS (University College of Technology, SibU); Ms. Crystal ak Kulwant (moderator), Ms. Bong Rui Fang, and Mr. Matthias Sia (Graphic and Media Design). The mentors were Past PAMSC Chairman, Ar. Ng Chee Wee and current Vice-chairman, Ar. Wee Hii Min.

The questions were collected earlier from students, graduates (and a few practitioners) to be answered live and to 'start the conversation'. Further questions were posted live during the talk and some of these were answered by the mentors and members of the Education Sub-committee.



The talk run past its allotted time of 90 minutes and went on for two and a half hours - even then not all the questions raised were answered in full. As such, INTERSECTION will be publishing the questions and their answers in a series of MENTORING by PAMSC articles over the next few months. And to add value to the endeavour, more questions are welcome - simply write into info@pamsc.com.my, or post on PAMSC Facebook page or call the mentors!

Meanwhile, here is the first instalment of the Q&A.

CW: Chee Wee , M: Min

1. **As an institute, is PAM planning to bring in foreign building technology/ methodology, and if so - how is it implemented?**

CW: PAM's traditional role is to represent professional architects' interests with a united front. As such, it focuses on issues relating to professional practice, regulations and legislations.

Its main focus is not on building technology/ methodology. However it does promote this through organizing events such as conferences and trade exhibitions. Datum KL Conference and Building Exhibition is one good example of this.

At the Chapter level, many of our CPD events are on technical topics, and PAMSC also used to organize the Building Trade Show which showcase new products and technologies in the market. Nowadays however the internet is probably a far more effective tool in searching for new products and technology, so with a little bit of effort it is not difficult to keep up with the latest developments out there.

M: And to add to this, PAM is not a builder nor a developer which means that while they can bring in the latest building technology and so forth, it is not up to PAM to implement them. It is up to the individual architect to propose new innovation to their clients, and to do so effectively they need to continually update their technical knowledge and experience.

2. **Can I enter local university with my Australian Matriculation results?**

M: It is unlikely that you can use your Australian Matriculation results to gain entry into Year 1 of a local architectural degree course, which typically require either STPM, a university foundation, local matriculation, and diploma in a related field.

3. **How do architecture schools prepare students for the 'industry'? Why do schools prescribe relevant reading up on outdated theories which are never applied in real projects?**

M: Everything that architecture schools teach prepares you for the industry - *studio* prepares you for *schematic design*, *architecture technology* prepares you for *design development*, *professional practice* prepares you for *contract administration*, and group projects teaches you how to communicate and deal with consultants, contractors and clients.

Finally, the internship programme allows you a trial run in the industry - many architecture school make this a requisite part of their course.

M: Reading about theories and history is meant to build your understanding of architecture and design. To say that they are not applied in real projects might mean you're applying them unknowingly, or worse still not applying them at all. We will explain by using some local examples;

This mosque borrows its built-form from the old South East Asian mosques with their pyramid pitched roof form, which in turn borrows from traditional timber construction, because *dulu dulu*, the people who build houses also built the mosques and other communal buildings.

This project also borrows from the notion of a 'wakaf' - which is a small communal shelter in the kampung and also a form of donation from a elder to his community (which this is)

Now, if we did not study this out dated theories and develop an interest in it for developing our design solutions - the narrative would not be as rich and as memorable.



Masjid Wan Alwi - the main roof form is influenced by old mosques in South East Asia.



Neighbourhood mosques were traditionally built as part of a community project; using local materials and craftsmanship.



As it is built by local builders, its construction is similar to that of a kampong house; except bigger.

4. Min and Chee Wee, if u have time. what come first architecture or architect? (online question)

CW/M: Architecture came first; the earliest vernacular buildings to be generally recognised as Architecture were built by local craftsmen, carpenters, masons, stone-cutters, etc and before architecture existed as a profession.

CW: The term 'architect' is derived from Greek meaning 'chief carpenter/builder'. Also, not all buildings by architects is Architecture, some of them lack the function, firmness and delight (Vitruvius's Ten Lamps of Architecture) and are therefore, simply buildings.

5. Is it fair to have a fix architects scale of fees? What if I can work faster? More efficient than others?

M: It is the Scale of Minimum Fees, you can always charge more, provided your client is willing to pay for your expertise and quality of work.

Remember that it is one thing to be charge, it is another thing to be paid.

6. How does the current pandemic affect the architectural scene? What are the steps taken to mitigate these effects?

CW: I think what the Pandemic has shown us is that many things can actually be done remotely. Working from home can be a useful way to continue your work when you cannot be in the office.

CW: I think it has also shown us the limitations of remote working. To me personally working remotely and communicating through Zoom and Google Meet, it can get things done, but there is a missing 10% when you are able to meet and work together physically. And that missing 10% might be the most important.

We all hope that this Pandemic will be over soon and things can get back to the way it was. But at the same time we need to get ourselves prepared - because the next Pandemic may be just around the corner. So working from home, working in the office - it depends on each firm's preference. But all of us need to be prepared in case we need to work remotely any time in the future. That means making sure your file system can be accessed remotely. Looking into your equipment and software which allows this to happen. Re-organizing the office, flexible work arrangements, these are the things we need to look at.

M: In addition to preparing our hardware to be pandemic-ready, we should also look at equipping our colleagues with the necessary support to work from home - some of this assistance are physical; a laptop, a quiet space, while other means of assurance are more important such as job-security, mental and physical health.

END

LEARNING TO DANCE

As part of PAMSC's effort to boost fellowship and appreciate the hard work carried out by their committee members, birthday celebrations have taken on a different approach - committee members select a coffee and cake from our favourite bistro on the special day. While it's not the same as a sit down tea break with the team, these are challenging times and it's not so much about weathering the storm but learning how to dance in the rain.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHEEWEE AND PETER! 



Photos taken while waiting for our take-away.

PARTNERS



Seng Lee Glass Sdn. Bhd.
成利玻璃有限公司

GL  **BALNIAGA**
A Brand You Can Trust