



**PAM**  
Pertubuhan Akitek  
Malaysia  
Sarawak Chapter



PAMSC NEWSLETTER

# INTERSECTION

PRACTICE & PROFESSIONALISM

**PLANNING & BUILDING  
PLAN SUBMISSION VIA  
eSPA AND eLA**

PROJECT FEATURE

**EXHIBITION:  
KENYALANG PARK  
COLLECTIVE MEMORIES**

HIGHLIGHTS

**SARAWAK FIRMS SHINE  
AT THE 2024 BLUESCOPE  
STEEL ARCHITECTURAL  
AWARDS**

Page	Contents
03 - 07	<p>HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p>Sarawak Firms Shine at the 2024 BlueScope Steel Architectural Awards</p>
08 - 14	<p>PRACTICE &amp; PROFESSIONALISM</p> <p>Planning and Building Plan Submission via eSPA and eLA</p> <p>Enhancing Accessibility and Safety: PAMSC's Participation in DBKU Workshop</p> <p>Issues Relating to The Payment of Construction Contracts Through CIPAA</p>
15 - 28	<p>EVENTS &amp; CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>International Fire Conference &amp; Exhibition Malaysia (IFCEM) 2024</p> <p><b>A WARM WELCOME</b> PAMSC Hosts IAI Kalimantan Barant and Tengah</p> <p><b>PAMSC TECHNICAL TALK 08/2024</b> Designing Resilient Roofs for Superior Load Performance &amp; Solar Energy Integration</p> <p><b>PAMSC TECHNICAL TALK 09/2024</b> Journey Towards A Sustainable Carbon Neutral</p>
29 - 38	<p>PROJECT FEATURE</p> <p><b>ONE STOP COLLECTION CENTRE (OSCC)</b> by RKD Architects Sdn Bhd</p> <p><b>EXHIBITION</b> Kenyalang Park Collective Memories</p>
39 - 46	<p>GRADUATE NEWS</p> <p><b>INTERNATIONAL BUILDING DESIGN COMPETITION (IBDC) 2024</b> Entries From UTS</p> <p>Sharing Session on 2023 Part III Examination Papers</p>
47 - 48	OUR PARTNERS
49	PUBLICATION TEAM



# SARAWAK FIRMS SHINE AT THE 2024 BLUESCOPE STEEL ARCHITECTURAL AWARDS



*Julie & Chien Ling  
Of Akimedia with  
their award.*

Sarawakian architecture firms have distinguished themselves at the prestigious BlueScope Steel Architectural Awards (BSAA) 2024 Malaysia, showcasing the best in innovative, steel-based design. This year's awards celebrated projects that highlight the beauty, resilience, and adaptability of steel in architecture.

The CIDB Convention Centre Sarawak, Kuching by Arkiskape Sdn Bhd took home the Gold Award in the "Lasting Beauty of Colorbond Steel" category, while Universiti of Technology Sarawak by Aki Media earned the Silver Award in the same category, both demonstrating exceptional uses of Colorbond steel to achieve lasting architectural impact.

The Colorbond Signature Project 2024 was awarded to RKD Architects for the newly completed One Stop Collection Centre

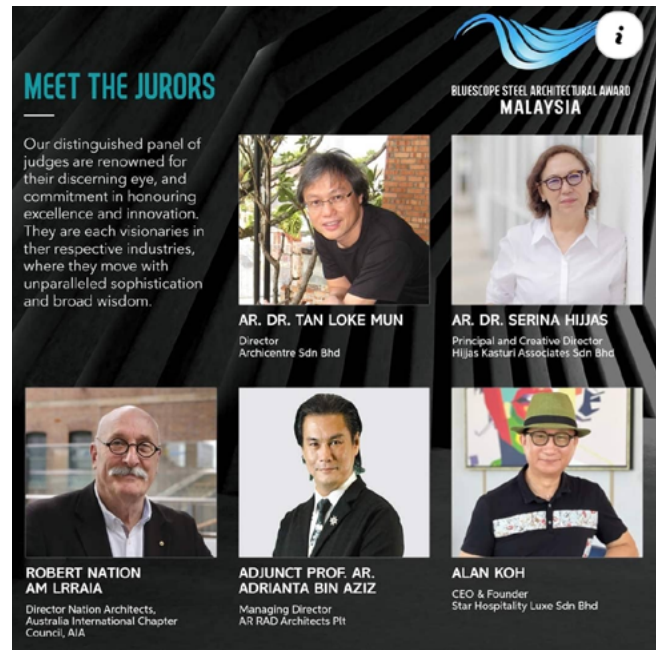
(OSCC) in Samarahan. This project, which is also featured in this newsletter, showcases the versatility and aesthetic appeal of steel, setting a benchmark for modern, functional design in community spaces.

JRC Architects also received recognition, winning the Commendation Award in the "Institutional & Others" category for their work on the Ching Ang Methodist Church, a design that shows the innovative use of steel in religious building architecture.

The 2024 BSAA celebrates the bold vision and creative solutions that steel enables in architectural design, setting new standards for excellence in the region. Congratulations to all winners for their outstanding contributions to the field of architecture, pushing the boundaries of creativity and innovation.



*Ecosteel and UGI Products accepting the award for Signature Project*

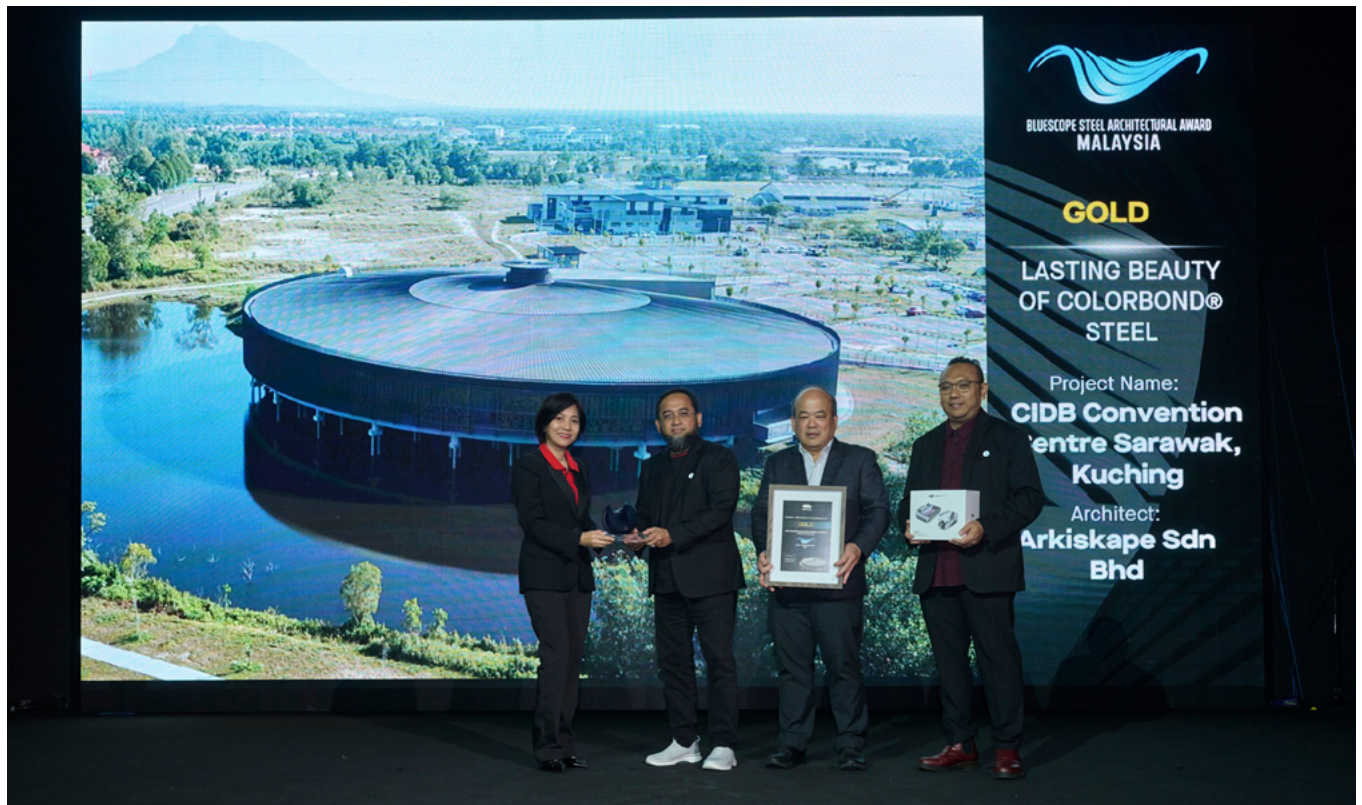


*Esteemed Jurors*



*Ar. Kushahrin Sadikin Kushairy & Mr. Mohd Azhar of RKD Architects receiving the award from Melissa of Eco Steel.*





*Ar. Sumardi Ghazalee and Ar. Desmond Kuek of Arkiskape Sdn Bhd accept the Gold Award for CIDB Convention Centre Sarawak*



*CIDB Convention Centre  
Sarawak*





*Julie Qian Li from Aki Media proudly receiving the Silver Award for Universiti of Technology Sarawak*

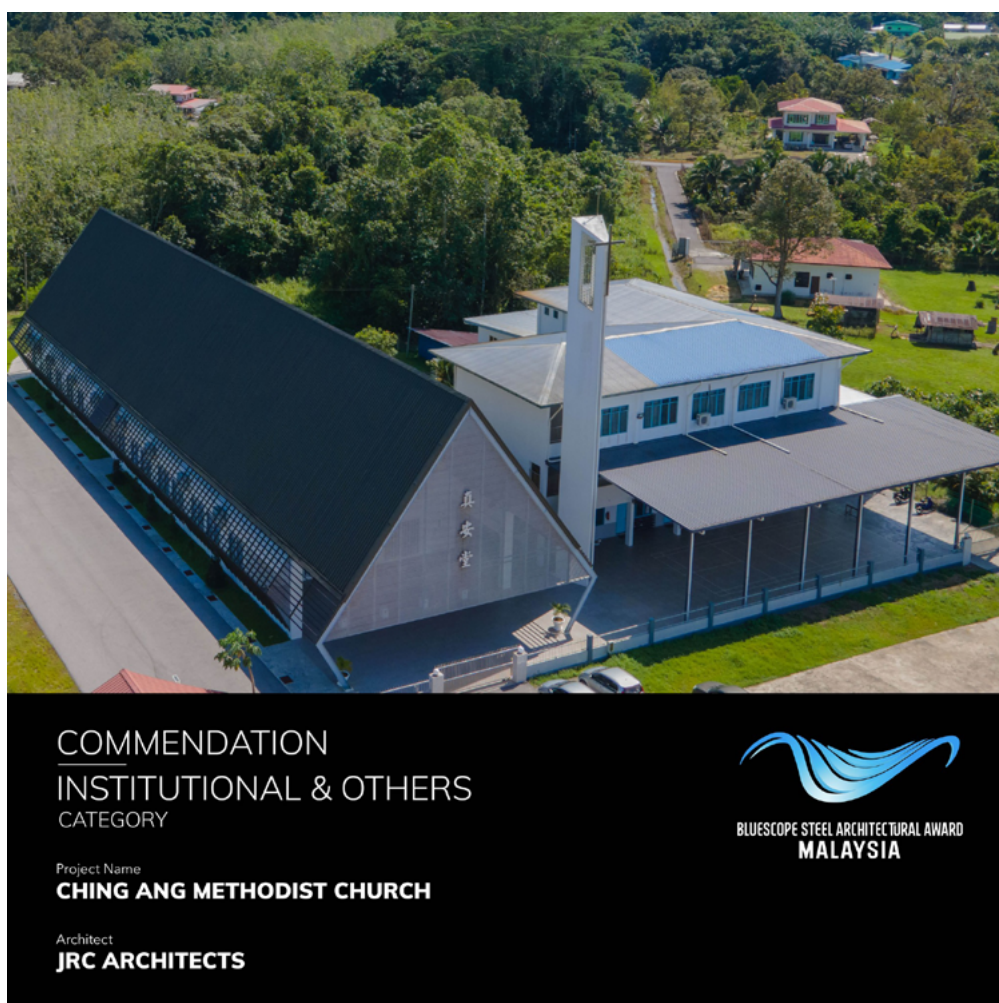


*Universiti of Technology Sarawak*





*Ar. Chang Jih Ren wins the Commendation Award for Ching Ang Methodist Church*



*Ching Ang Methodist Church*



# PLANNING & BUILDING PLAN SUBMISSION VIA eSPA & eLA

## ONLINE SUBMISSION MATTERS & ISSUES

Report by Ar. Mohammad Afiq Shazwan

On October 26, 2024, the PAMSC Practice and Government Liaison Committee hosted a Practice Workshop at the PAMSC Centre, moderated by Ar. Mohammad Afiq Shazwan Abd Samat and Ar. Alastair Wong. The workshop saw active participation from 92 registered members (69 attendees) and focused on addressing key challenges faced by architects in planning and building plan submissions via digital platforms of eSPA and eLA.





# KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

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## POINT 1

### Planning Application Submission via eSPA:

Feedback collected during the pre-workshop survey revealed challenges are categorized into five areas: Pre-Submission Issues:

- Problems with detailed inputs, strata title requirements, and automated calculation errors, among others.
- During Submission: Difficulties in tracking project status, digital signature requirements, and comment coordination.
- Post-Approval Issues: Challenges such as one year cooling periods post-rejection and revision processes.
- General Concerns: Slow processing times and unclear guidelines.
- System-Related Issues: Frequent glitches, limited file sizes, and system coordination inefficiencies.

## POINT 2

### Building Plan Submission via eLA:

Similar concerns were identified for eLA submissions, highlighting:

- Pre-Submission Challenges: Registration as QSP, checklist requirements, and approval discrepancies between councils.
- During Submission: Limited file uploads, non-standardized procedures, and a lack of user-friendly interfaces.
- Post-Approval Issues: Persistent hardcopy submission requirements and procedural inconsistencies.
- General and System Challenges: Missing complaint platforms, training gaps, and system errors hindering flexibility.



## WAY FORWARD

The PAMSC Practice and Government Liaison Committee will review the workshop's findings and address the identified issues with relevant ministries and agencies. These efforts aim to enhance submission processes, improve system reliability, and streamline architectural workflows across Sarawak.







# ENHANCING ACCESSIBILITY AND SAFETY

## PAMSC'S PARTICIPATION IN DBKU WORKSHOP

Report by Ar. Mohammad Afiq Shazwan

On November 7-8, 2024, representatives from PAMSC, Ar. Johann Harris Sulaiman and Ar. Mohammad Afiq Shazwan b. Abd Samat, participated in a workshop hosted by Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara (DBKU) at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK). The event, chaired by En. Ng Lian Seng, focused on discussions surrounding Rekabentuk Bandar Sejagat, Bandar Selamat, and Bandar Mesra Kanak-kanak, as presented by leading organizations such as PLANMalaysia and experts like Prof. Dato' Sri Dr. Asiah Abdul Rahim.

The workshop aimed to address the implementation of minimum accessibility guidelines, covering key areas such as accessibility routes, disabled vehicle access, public amenities, and building infrastructure facilities. Topics included critical elements like ramps, pedestrian pathways, tactile markers, and inclusive building design. Moreover, existing guidelines such as the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Implementation Guide were reviewed to ensure alignment with DBKU's upcoming plans.



## MOVING FORWARD

DBKU has expressed intentions to implement these guidelines by 2025. To support this initiative, PAMSC will provide professional input through an official letter outlining recommendations by the end of 2024. This collaborative effort highlights PAMSC's commitment to creating inclusive, safe, and sustainable urban environments.

Stay tuned for updates as PAMSC continues to contribute toward shaping Kuching's urban landscape.





# ISSUES RELATING TO THE PAYMENT OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS THROUGH CIPAA

Report by Ar. Brendan Tong

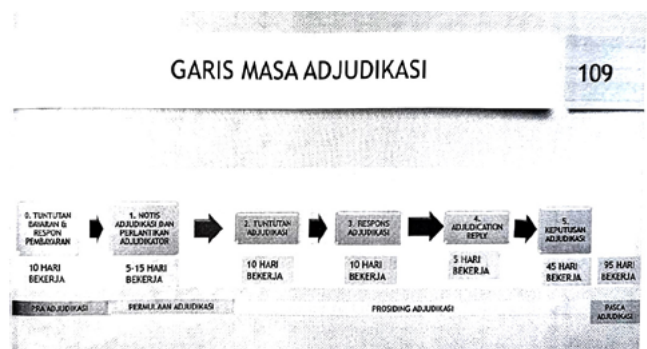




We provide herewith the salient points of the session:

## THE PURPOSE OF CIPAA

The Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012 (CIPAA) is an Act that was enacted to provide an alternative platform for dispute resolution in the construction industry, particularly in the areas of payment and payment-related agreements. The Act was enacted in lieu of the fact that a majority of construction disputes, particularly in the private sector, are due to issues involving the payment to contractors and subcontractors. That said, government contracts are now mandated to include clauses allowing contractors and sub-contractors to seek adjudication through CIPAA as well.



## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TIME IN CIPAA

Most of the procedures laid out in CIPAA involve adherence to a time limit, and corresponding responses and actions may require prompt attention. This may be overlooked in an overtly bureaucratic setting. For example, due to his ignorance of the urgency of CIPAA documents, an administration staff may accidentally delay the handing of the document to the relevant contract administrator, potentially causing a default in their response and consequentially losing the case. Hence, all construction establishments were advised to train their staff to recognize and act in response to a CIPAA document promptly and effectively.

PAMSC was honored to have been invited by the Board of Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (LJBM) to attend their recent talk entitled "Issues Relating to The Payment of Construction Contracts Through CIPAA", held at Imperial Hotel Kuching Ballroom on the 13th and 14th of August 2024.

Over the two-day session, JKR Sarawak Jurukur Bahan Penguasa (PQS) Sr. Noliza Binti Din brought the participants through the purpose and mechanics of the CIPAA 2012 law, the process of CIPAA adjudication and claims, and some enlightening case studies that further clarify the complexities of CIPAA related disputes.

PP/Wakil PP perlu menyimpan dengan selamat dokumen-dokumen berkaitan dengan projek :-

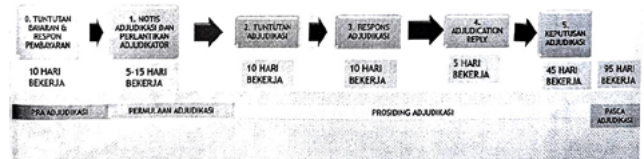
1. Surat Setuju Terima
2. Dokumen Kontrak
3. Lukisan-lukisan kontrak & lukisan pembinaan
4. Fail-fail dan rekod APK, KPK dan PHK.
5. Minit-minit mesyuarat tapak
6. Minit-minit mesyuarat Koordinasi
7. Permohonan Lanjutan Masa dari Kontraktor
8. Penilaian Lanjutan Masa dan pemakluman kepada Kontraktor
9. Isu-Isu Tak Slap Kerja
10. Penilaian Perubahan Kerja dan pemakluman kepada Kontraktor
11. Penilaian /persetujuan/keputusan apa-apa kesamaran/percanggahan semasa pembinaan.
12. Permohonan oleh Kontraktor berkaitan bayaran kemajuan bulanan
13. Rekod-rekod bayaran
14. Permohonan Perakuan Mukhtamad oleh Kontraktor
15. Penilaian terperinci Perakuan Mukhtamad
16. Dan Lain-Lain rekod

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DOCUMENTATION IN CIPAA

Seasonal CIPAA Adjudicators shared that most cases won on the technicality of having more superior and complete documentation of the issue. It goes without saying that the best defense against CIPAA, or any disputes for that matter, is to have a healthy practice that includes intense and comprehensive documentation of the works. It is also imperative to ensure that due diligence is carried out for all roles and responsibilities involving site supervision, progress and payment certification.

## EXCEPTIONS AND EXEMPTIONS FROM CIPAA

CIPAA is not necessarily applicable to all construction projects. For a start, the act does not apply to the construction of personal dwellings with less than four storeys, in which the contractor and subcontractors of the projects are hired by the person to whom the dwelling belongs. For all other cases, as part of the procedure to adjudicate via CIPAA, both parties are mandated to submit their case files to the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC). AIAC will then review the case before determining its suitability to be resolved under CIPAA.



## AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE A CIPAA ADJUDICATOR

The AIAC encourages seasonal and experienced construction professionals to apply to be a CIPAA Adjudicator. The pre-requisite to be considered as a panelist includes possessing a minimum of 7 years working experience in the construction field, and partaking in required and relevant AIAC and CIPAA courses. The remuneration fees for adjudication work is based on a fee scale that is governed by AIAC. Interested parties can peruse more information from the official AIAC website at [www.aiac.world](http://www.aiac.world).

Fi Adjudicator (AIAC Recommended)

54

Amount in Dispute (RM)	Adjudicator's Fees (RM)
1 Up to 150 000	8,400
2 150 001 to 300 000	8,400 + 3.5% of excess over 150 000
3 300 001 to 800 000	13,650 + 1.2% of excess over 300 000
4 800 001 to 1 300 000	20,150 + 1.25% of excess over 800 000
5 1 300 001 to 1 800 000	26,400 + 1.1% of excess over 1 300 000
6 1 800 001 to 2 300 000	31,900 + 0.7% of excess over 1 800 000
7 2 300 001 to 2 800 000	35,400 + 0.5% of excess over 2 300 000
8 2 800 001 to 3 300 000	37,900 + 0.68% of excess over 2 800 000
9 3 300 001 to 5 000 000	41,315 + 0.65% of excess over 3 300 000
10 5 000 001 to 10 000 000	52,365 + 0.36% of excess over 5 000 000
11 10 000 001 to 15 000 000	70,615 + 0.38% of excess over 10 000 000
12 Over 15 000 000	89,615

SCAN HERE TO  
DOWNLOAD  
CIPAA ACT 46





# INTERNATIONAL FIRE CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION MALAYSIA (IFCEM) 2024

@KL CONVENTION CENTRE

Report by Ar. Brendan Tong

*The following are my personal takeaways and points of interest from the IFCEM Conference. They may not accurately reflect the speaker's presentation.*



“*Typical fire regulations do not account for irrational human behavior.*

Mr. Tay Hao Giang,

*'Fire Risk Management or Regulation Compliance for Occupied Building'*

TALK #1



## FIRE RISK MANAGEMENT OR REGULATION COMPLIANCE FOR OCCUPIED BUILDING

Mr. Tay shared some examples of human behaviors impeding the efficacy of fire safety mechanisms in buildings. He cited various examples of social experiments and real-life cases, which showed that people delay their reaction to fire alarms, or even the presence of smoke and fire, due to various illogical reasons. These included a "Follow the Leader" syndrome, wherein people expected to be led to safety, or expected shops or establishments to instruct them before they are willing to react to the fire. Some will even run towards the source of fire and smoke due to their curiosity or desire to film the incident before they try to evacuate.

In other cases, despite knowing the dangers they are in, people prioritize the completion of their task over the urgency to evacuate. He cited an example when a fake fire alarm was triggered during a study, and some men refused to evacuate from the process of queueing for payment of a shopping item, as their spouses have instructed them to complete that task come hell or high water. Therefore, Mr. Tay posited that, to an extent, fire safety should be designed from an intuitive standpoint, taking into account human behavior instead of designing for mere minimum compliance.





*It's not an EV Car Problem, it's a Carpark Design Problem.*

Ms Fang Li,

*'Taking Fire Safety in Carparks to a new Level'*

## TAKING FIRE SAFETY IN CARPARKS TO A NEW LEVEL

FIRE INCIDENTS					
LOCATION	YEAR	VEHICLES INVOLVED	INJURIES / FATALITIES	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
Oaklands Park (Australia) [75]	2023	5	None	Open air	Two vehicles destroyed, another three damaged
Bankstown (Australia) [76]	2023	6	1 Injury (smoke)	Open	Fire controlled by early intervention of fire & rescue services.
Ravensburg (Germany) [73]	2021	4	None	Closed	EV caused the fire. GHZ sprinkler system controlled the fire, before brigade suppression
Härsta (Sweden) [77]	2021	200	None	Closed	Roof collapsed, building demolished.
Fremantle (Australia) [78]	2021	4	1 Injury (smoke)	Closed	Fire in the underground carpark of a residential block. Did not cause any structural damage.
Geraldton (Australia) [79], [80]	2021	7	None	Open	Caused by an electrical fault. 125,000 AUD in damage
Warsaw (Poland) [81]	2020	22	None	Closed basement	150 residents evacuated. Reoccupation delayed hours by high temps. Considerable spalling.
Epe (Netherlands) [82]	2020	1	None	Closed	EV fire in shopping centre carpark controlled by sprinkler system.
Gaithersburg (MD, USA) [34]	2020	4	None	Open	Significant damage - up to 150,000 USD in loss

Worcester

Ms Fang studied 9 major cases of carpark fires that had occurred throughout the world. She found that only one case was caused by an Electric Vehicle (EV) fire. Highlighting that the EV fire caused the least amount of property damage and (zero) casualty, she posited that this was due to the carpark taking additional precautions to account for a potential EV fire. This included the isolation and enlargement of the EV parking bays and the installation of sprinklers over the bays. In light of that, Ms Fang opined that the issue of vehicle fire in carparks has been prevalent long before the emergence of EV popularity, but has yet to be significantly and holistically addressed. As battery fire tends to be more dramatic than combustion engine fire, EV was made a boogieman, and arguably in a positive way, since it catalyzed an improvement of the fire regulations for enclosed carparks and large carpark structures. Thus, Ms Fang called for a universal improvement to the fire safety mechanisms of carpark designs irrespective of the vehicle's engine type.



“

*The Key Strategy to Fighting Battery Fire is Managing Its Thermal Runaway Conditions”*

Dr. Jiang Feng Hui,

*‘Fire Protection Solutions for Energy Storage Systems’*

#### Explosion Hazard Mitigation (1)

- Modeling TR Propagation Without Ignition
- Effective Detection
- Emergency Ventilation
  - 0.75 m<sup>3</sup>/min/m<sup>2</sup> (2.5 cfm/ft<sup>2</sup>) of floor area if hydrogen is detected at 10% of the LEL
  - Remove Gases Early in Event
  - Frequency Reduction
- Peak Gas Generation
  - Generation Rate/Volume Still Under Research

(FM DS 5-33 Recommendations)

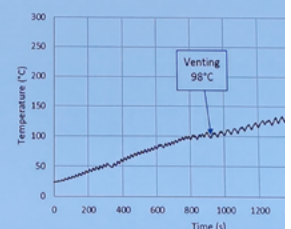
According to Dr. Jiang, ‘Thermal Runaway’ refers to the temperature in which a battery experiences uncontrollable acceleration of heat and fire, and is often characterized by dramatic exothermic reactions until the complete destruction of the battery. Thermal runaway fire is hard to put out because it can propagate easily due to its spread and intensity, is impossible to stop, produces large amount of heat and thermal gas, and does not need oxygen as a fuel. Since the prevailing strategy for a thermal runaway fire is to allow it to burn to destruction and extinguish on its own, Dr. Jiang posited that the best management for battery fire is to prevent it from reaching its thermal runaway temperature. This can be achieved through the installation of cooling and ventilation systems that detect and intervene upon abnormally rising temperature, systems that detect thermal gases, and devices that disengages the battery from the source of its electricity (and heat) such as de-energizing systems and electric frequency reduction systems.

## FIRE PROTECTION SOLUTIONS FOR ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

### Early Intervention

- Known Approaches
  - Cell Temperature Monitoring
  - Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Detection
- Interlocked with Battery Management system
  - De-energize System
  - Effective Only for Electrical Abuse
- Frequency Reduction

(FM DS 5-33 Recommendations)







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*We should develop fire precaution practices for solar energy systems.*

Mr. Rob Liewellyn,

*'Solar and Energy Storage Systems Safety and Reliability'*



## SOLAR AND ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS SAFETY AND RELIABILITY

Mr. Rob highlighted the rising popularity of installing large solar energy systems as part of the façade of complex buildings, at isolated positions such as the rooftops of large buildings, as well as at less inhabited places like lakes, deserts, and grasslands. However, these systems are typically not accorded the same fire safety precautions as more conventional energy systems. This is further complicated by the rapid improvement in solar panel technology to increase its

energy capacity and intensity, thus effectively increasing its combustibility. Therefore, Mr. Rob proposed that the design and integration of solar energy systems should account for the ease of maintenance, such as installing infrastructure that eases the regular removal of fire-accelerating debris. Mr. Rob also proposed that the panels be designed with better fire appliance accessibility, and have early fire detection mechanisms built into the system. In addition, he called for the regulation of solar panel installers, noting that at present, most fires are caused by faulty installation. Unbeknownst to many less trained installers, solar panels must be installed with Direct Current (DC) electrical conduits that are similar to other energy systems, which are more heavy-duty than Alternating Current (AC) conduits. Lastly, Mr. Rob suggested that both building managers and fire departments should prepare specialized training to handle solar energy system fires.



*PAM & PAMSC Representatives with Dato' Ts. Nor Hisham Bin Mohammad, Director General Of JBPM.*



# A WARM WELCOME: PAMSC HOSTS IAI KALIMANTAN BARAT & TENGAH

Report by Ar. Intan Sazali

Last August, PAMSC rolled out the red carpet for our friends from the Ikatan Arsitek Indonesia (IAI) during their adventure on Jelajah Arsitektur Lintas Batas Edisi 3: Arsitektur Pusaka & Tektonika Arsitektur Kayu Bersejarah. This cross-border architectural exploration highlighted the rich heritage of timber architecture, with the delegation's journey spanning Kalimantan Barat and Sarawak.

The program embodies the wisdom wrapped in the beauty of architecture, crossing borders between Kalimantan Barat and Sarawak, Malaysia, to support efforts in preserving architectural heritage. It also serves as an educational platform for members of IAI, local communities,

and regional governments while creating valuable documentation as a lasting asset for future generations.

The delegation from IAI Kalimantan Barat, led by Ar. M. Ridha Alhamdani, and IAI Kalimantan Tengah, led by Ar. Ristia Heranidewi, were warmly welcomed during their visit. As part of the program, PAMSC hosted a memorable welcome dinner at the PAMSC Center in Saradise, where the evening featured a delightful array of authentic Sarawakian cuisine. Guests enjoyed food catered by Lepau Restaurant, with kolo mee and traditional local kuih served, adding variety to the food selection.

The dinner wasn't just about good food—it was an evening filled with





meaningful exchanges of ideas, strengthening the relationship between PAMSC and IAI. The delegation explored Kuching's architectural gems at the Sarawak Cultural Village, gaining insights into Sarawak's unique blend of historical timber heritage and architecture, further enriching their journey.

This recap celebrates a successful collaboration between PAMSC and IAI. We've learned that food brings people together, architects share a deep love for timber, and Sarawak has plenty to offer in both. Enjoy the photos of the evening, capturing the camaraderie and shared moments of joy that made this event so memorable.





**PAMSC TECHNICAL TALK 08/2024**

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# **DESIGNING RESILIENT ROOFS FOR SUPERIOR LOAD PERFORMANCE & SOLAR ENERGY INTEGRATION BY NS BLUESCOPE LYSAGHT SARAWAK**

Report by Ar. Aneem Soraya



The PAMSC Technical Talk 08/2024 was a remarkable event, with 48 participants including architects, designers, and industry professionals. The session featured speakers from NS BlueScope Lysaght Sarawak

## SPEAKER OF THE DAY



**Ng  
Cheah  
Haur**

Ng Cheah Haur, Technical Solution Manager at NS BlueScope Malaysia, delivered an insightful presentation on roof design and performance. With 18 years of experience in the building and construction sector, Ng shared his expertise in civil and structural engineering, project management, and product development. He highlighted his involvement in significant projects like the Putrajaya Mosque, Sunway Pyramid Extension, and key infrastructure developments in Singapore.

Currently, Ng provides technical advisory, steers product development, and conducts CPD-accredited webinars for NS BlueScope Malaysia. His talk offered valuable perspectives on designing resilient roofs that perform well under Malaysia's harsh climate while integrating solar energy solutions for a sustainable future.

Mr. Ng Cheah Haur's presentation focused on the vital role of roofs in protecting buildings from environmental factors such as wind, rain, and extreme temperatures, particularly in Malaysia's harsh climate. He emphasized the importance of selecting durable materials and designing resilient roofs to ensure safety and prevent risks to lives and property.

Additionally, Mr. Ng highlighted the growing significance of roofs as platforms for clean energy generation, especially solar power. His presentation discussed how to balance functionality, energy efficiency, and visual impact to create roofs that not only safeguard occupants but also contribute to a building's





tainability by reducing its environmental footprint.

## CONCLUSION

The PAMSC Technical Talk 8/2024, attended by 48 participants, was a valuable session led by Mr. Ng Cheah Haur. His presentation on resilient roof design highlighted how to create roofs that can withstand Malaysia's tough climate while also supporting clean energy solutions.

The talk emphasized the importance of combining durability with energy efficiency, and how modern roofs can enhance both safety and sustainability. With 4 CPD points applied, attendees gained practical insights into designing effective and eco-friendly roofs for future projects.



## PAMSC TECHNICAL TALK 09/2024

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# JOURNEY TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE CARBON NEUTRAL

Report by Ar. Aneem Soraya

The final PAMSC Technical Talk of the year was well-attended by 58 participants, including architects, designers, and industry professionals. All eager to engage with the two insightful presentations on sustainability and AI in Architecture.

The speakers included Mr Daniel Lim from ALCOM, and Ar. Jethro Koi from Verge Architects.

## JOURNEY TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE CARBON NEUTRAL

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Mr Daniel Lim, the Sales & Marketing Director of ALCOM shared his experience in promoting sustainability at ALCOM, one of the region's leading aluminium producers. He explained how ALCOM has adopted eco-friendly processes and technologies to reduce carbon emissions in construction. His talk focused on how architects and designers can use sustainable materials and energy-efficient solutions to support carbon-neutral goals.

The session highlighted the balance between business objectives and environmental responsibility, emphasized ALCOM's commitment to sustainability, focusing on strategies for greener business paths and the role of architects in shaping sustainable futures. His presentation was both enlightening and motivational, encouraging architects to adopt sustainable solutions for the benefit of future generations.



**MR.  
DANIEL  
LIM**

**DIRECTOR, ALCOM**

1<sup>st</sup> SPEAKER





**AR.  
JETHRO  
KOI**

**DIRECTOR,  
VERGE ARCHITECTS**

## AI – A DISRUPTION OR TOOL FOR ARCHITECTS?

Ar. Jethro Koi, Director of Verge Architects is one of Malaysia's 40 under 40 Emerging Architects award recipient, delivered an engaging presentation on the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in architecture.

Ar. Jethro discussed how AI can enhance the design process improving efficiency while still allowing architects to maintain creativity. He emphasized that AI should be seen as a tool to support architects, not to replace them. At Verge Architects, he leads projects that use AI, and modern tools to streamline workflow and deliver precise designs.

His talk explored how AI can transform architecture, from conceptualization to construction, making designs more innovative, efficient and sustainable. The session encouraged architects to embrace AI as a valuable asset in the future of architecture.





## CONCLUSION

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The PAMSC Technical Talk 9/2024, attended by 58 participants, was an insightful event featuring presentations by Mr, Daniel Lim and Ar. Jethro Koi. Both speakers shared valuable perspectives on the future of architecture, focusing on sustainability and technological innovation.

The event provided participants with 4 CPD points and offered practical insights into designing eco-friendly and forward-thinking projects. Attendees left with a clear understanding of how to integrate both sustainability and advanced technologies into their architectural practices.





# ONE STOP COLLECTION CENTRE (OSCC)



*The design approach was to assimilate utilitarianism architecture to represent an industrial outlook—the clean-line look gives a strong and definitive contrast between the different elements of the space, and it revolves around minimalism to obtain a sleek and functional design.*

## ARCHITECT

RKD Architects Sdn Bhd

## CLIENTS

### END USER

Kementerian Pembangunan Wanita, Kanak-Kanak dan Kesejahteraan Komuniti

### IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

JKR Sarawak

### IMPLEMENTING AGENCY DURING SCHEMATIC & DESIGN DEVELOPMENT STAGE

Sarawak Multimedia Agency

## YEAR

2023

## COMPILED BY

Borneo Architecture Journal

## PROJECT LOCATION

Kota Samarahan, Sarawak

## AREA

1300m<sup>2</sup>

## C&S ENGINEER

ASL Engineers Sdn Bhd

## M&E ENGINEER

Azmar Engineers Sdn Bhd

## QUANTITY SURVEYOR

JNK Quantity Surveyor

## CONTRACTOR

Polybuilding Construction Co.

## PHOTOGRAPHY & TEXT

RKDA Architects Sdn Bhd

The OSCC building, situated in Kota Samarahan, about 37 minutes from Kuching City Centre, is located in an industrial zone near the new Batang Samarahan Bridge. The site covers 3.78 acres, with 2 acres designated for current development, leaving room for future expansions. The building's gross floor area is approximately 1300 m<sup>2</sup>, carefully planned to ensure logical relationships between spaces, enhancing functionality.

The OSCC's design is both functional and modern, featuring a lobby with a retail gallery and a glass-separated production area. The packaging area has a high ceiling, allowing for future expansion. Additional facilities include a product testing lab, two flexible training rooms, a dynamic event space, a co-working area, and a mezzanine-level incubator concept office.



“

*The primary goal of the OSCC is to support local cottage industry start-ups, particularly women entrepreneurs, by helping them promote their products, providing business training, and enhancing product development for national and international markets.*



*To accentuate the building, the design integrated primary colours for an interesting, unembellished look, with minimal use of red and yellow providing a bold contrast to the generally subdued simplicity*

The primary goal of the OSCC is to support local cottage industry start-ups, particularly women entrepreneurs, by helping them promote their products, providing business training, and enhancing product development for national and international markets. The project aims to increase the success rate of local entrepreneurs by offering networking opportunities, marketing assistance, financial coaching, and alignment with Sarawak Digital Economy policies.

The design of the OSCC building embraces utilitarianism, reflecting an industrial outlook with clean lines and minimalistic aesthetics. The concept of 'form follows function' was central to the design, which focuses on simplicity and conspicuous views of structural elements, avoiding unnecessary design details. Considerable thought was given to selecting materials that are durable, maintenance-friendly, and visually appealing, aligning with the project's design philosophy.

*Steel was selected as the primary material for this project for its versatility in design, allowing flexibility to create long-span structures with a sleek and minimalist look and its prefabricated nature enables quick assembly on-site.*

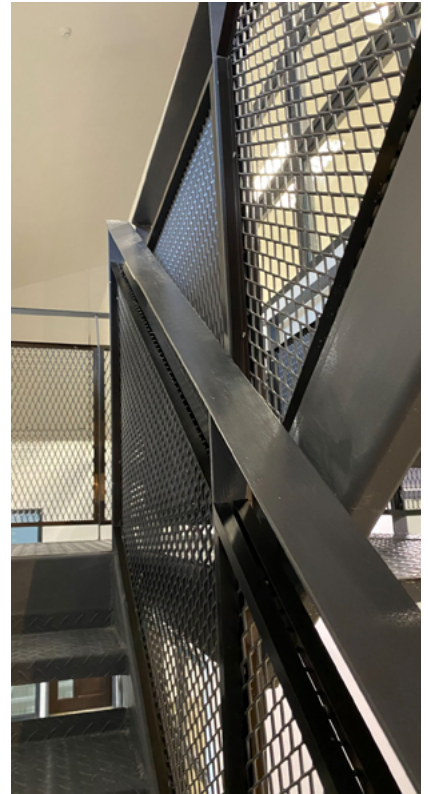




Steel's structural integrity ensures strength and durability, supporting the required large span and open spaces in the building, which are central to the design. Additionally, steel is sustainable and recyclable, aligning with the client's environmental responsibility ethos. Its maintenance-friendly properties, such as resistance to corrosion, keep the building functional and aesthetically pleasing over time. Steel's aesthetic appeal enhances the industrial look, reinforcing the 'form follows function' philosophy.

The building's seamless roof and façade, coupled with double-volume spaces, add a sense of grandeur to the industrial design, with flexibility for future expansion. The design incorporates primary colours to accentuate the otherwise minimalist approach.

Due to the timing of its construction during the COVID-19 pandemic, the project includes contactless and social distancing features, such as automated sliding doors, biometric access systems, and facilities for video conferencing, ensuring the building is suited to the new-normal work environment.

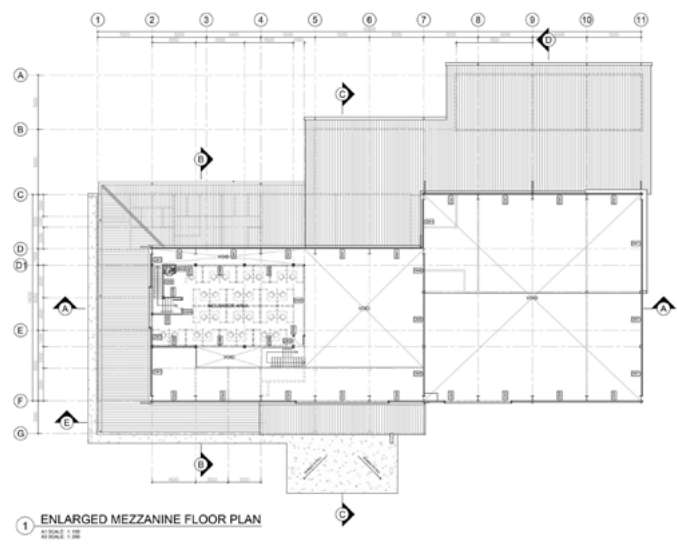
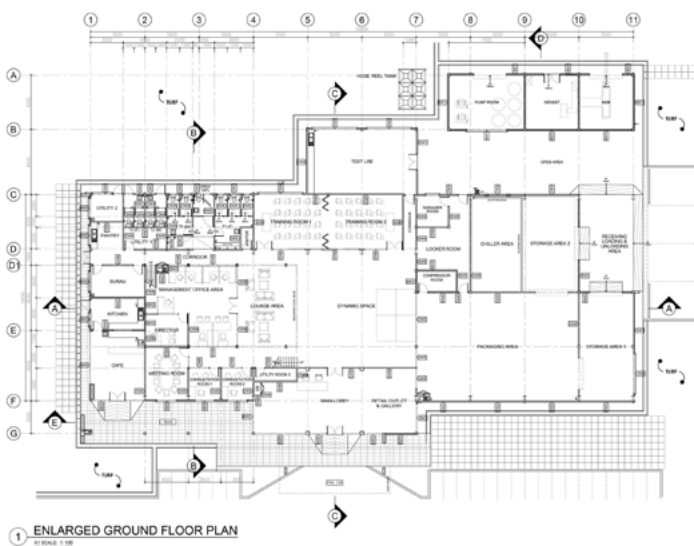


*Steel staircase detail—made of folded chequered plate treads, steel plate, and expanded metal railings to an otherwise mundane building typology.*



*Incubator concept office on the mezzanine floor above the OSCC management office and lounge, with the dynamic performance space in the foreground.*









# KENYALANG PARK COLLECTIVE MEMORIES EXHIBITION

BY ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS OF CHUNG  
YUAN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY, TAIWAN



## ARTICLE BY

Mr. Chai Kit Siang, Culture and History  
Researcher, Writer of My Easy Moment

## PHOTOGRAPHS BY

My Easy Moment

## COMPILED BY

Borneo Architecture Journal



Kenyalang Park, with over 50 years of history, is the first satellite town of Kuching and one of the most familiar areas to Kuchingites. As a result, Kenyalang Park holds a special place in everyone's memory. This inspired the 'Kenyalang Park Collective Memories' exhibition, a collaborative effort between Kuching and Taiwan.

Eight students from the Department of Architecture at Chung Yuan Christian University—Shih Chen Hsi Ching, Wu Yun Chen, Ding Bo Siang, Tsai Mu Hua, Zhong Ding Hua, Chao Yu Hsuan, Chen Pin Yan, and Yang An Chi—under the guidance of Associate Professor Eric Chen and teaching assistant Wang Jing Hua, spent the past three weeks conducting fieldwork in Kenyalang Park.

Organised in collaboration with local architects and cultural historians, the exhibition received wholehearted support from the local Kenyalang Park Community Association.

Community leaders such as Penghulu Tan Heng Kee and Kapitan Sim Bee Kim played an active role in connecting the students with interviewees. The students' schedule was packed with interviews of local residents, as well as measuring, photographing, and drawing, leaving them with little time for travel.

The 'Kenyalang Park Collective Memories' exhibition was completed just before the students' departure. A simple yet heartfelt opening ceremony took place, attended by local residents and various friends. In his speech, Associate Professor Eric Chen praised the Kenyalang Park community for its distinctive character and warm hospitality. He expressed his gratitude to the locals for their generosity, which greatly enriched the students' experience.

The students also shared that locals generously invited them for meals and sometimes refused payment when they bought





things. They were continually given pastries and cookies, which made them feel the genuine warmth of the Kuching people. The students were so touched so touched by this hospitality that they are already looking forward to returning next year. On the morning of the exhibition, some locals arrived early to greet the students, take photos, and chat as if they were old friends.

During their visit, the students not only interviewed numerous locals and residents but also, thanks to arrangements by the renowned architect Mike Boon, had the opportunity to meet with Kuching South Mayor Dato Wee Hong Seng. They reported their findings

to the Mayor and conducted a thorough field study, including visits to Chung Hua Middle School No.1, SJK Chung Hua No. 5, and the San Seng Tong Buddhist Association.

Despite the limited time and this being the students' first visit to Kuching, the exhibition showcases their meticulous and thoughtful work. The detailed sketches, accompanied by the names and signatures of interviewees and explanations of the distinct phases of Kenyalang's development, provide visitors with a deeper understanding of the community's unique characteristics and the interactions between its people.

'Kenyalang Park Collective Memories' exhibition is just the beginning. Future projects are in the planning stages, aiming to record and preserve more stories and historical photographs of Kenyalang. We believe that bringing together everyone's collective memories can create a lasting impact. We also encourage more interested individuals to contribute to shaping the future of this community, infusing it with greater creativity and vitality.

The Exhibition was located at Kenyalang shop lot above Magnum 4D shop and was open to visitors on Saturdays 14/9/2024, 21/9/2024, 28/9/2024, and 5/10/2024 (Sat).



CYCU lecturer, Eric, and 16 architecture students meeting with the committee members of Kenyalang Park Community Association (KPCA) for preparation of the community engagement project.



KPCA was assisting the group in getting local contacts for interviews, chit-chat, and site visits. Among places visited in Kenyalang are private residential units, commercial shops and other institutions like Buddhist centre, Churches, and schools.





# INTERNATIONAL BUILDING DESIGN COMPETITION (IBDC) 2024

**ENTRIES FROM UTS**

Report by Ar. Brendan Tong



The International Building Design Competition (IBDC) is an annual and international student competition jointly organized by Nanyang Technological University Singapore and Ngee Ann Polytechnic Singapore, in partnership with prominent higher learning education institutions in Singapore as well as the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) Singapore. The competition is typically oriented to themes incorporating BIM, Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality, Big Data, and other relevant technology.

This year, the competition challenged students to propose a 3,500 square metres Campus of the Future at a site of their own preference, and within their own cultural and environmental context. Upon the release of the brief on the 1st of July 2024, the students were given 5 days to prepare a proposal for the building in the

form of a series of presentation boards, a video slideshow, and a report.

We are proud to announce that one of the teams from the University of Technology Sarawak, namely Team D2SJA, has won the 2nd prize in the competition. Additionally, two more teams from the university, namely Team Kolo Mee and Team Curiosity Studios, has been awarded consolation prizes for their efforts. We provide herewith a short compilation of their entries.

PAMSC would like to extend their heartiest congratulations to the successful students, and we encourage avid participation from our Sarawakian Architects, Graduates and Students in similar international endeavours that would certainly make us all proud to be well represented.





# T R [AI] L

'NEO - TRAIL LEARNING NEXUS'

## CONCEPT

T R [AI] L

'Neo - Trail Learning Nexus'

## AWARD

2<sup>nd</sup> Place

## TEAM

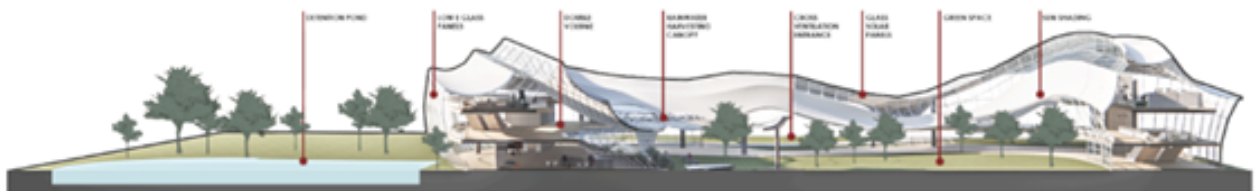
D2SJA

## TEAM MEMBERS

1. Denilson Xavier Anak Fusheng
2. Joenna Vinisia Johnny Juinis
3. Affiwah Binti Affendy
4. Sim Shau Moaw
5. Debby Lee Wun

## SUPERVISING LECTURER

Faisal Bin Tamrulan

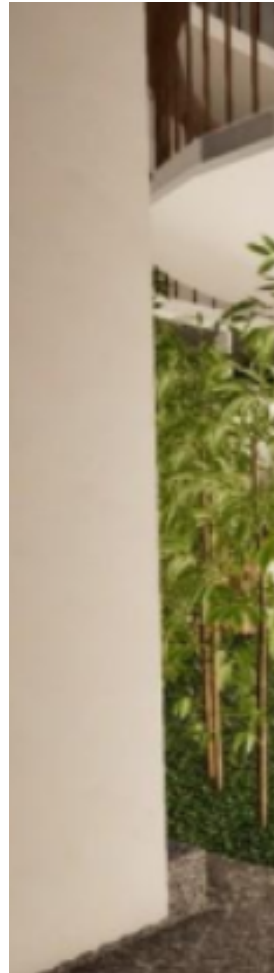


Inspired by the biodiversity of Sarawak, our educational hub is located within our current campus, and integrates advanced learning technologies with sustainable practices, thereby offering students an immersive experience that celebrates the region's natural richness and cultural heritage.

Our design strategy was to orientate the building

around a central courtyard, which performs as an adaptive space for flexible learning, social gathering, and landscape integration. The landscape, as well as its associated sustainable practices, are also blended with the technology we introduce to the learning spaces, generating an appreciation for the duality in integrated spaces and experience.





# A . I . T. University

'AN ARCHITECTURE, INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY'

## CONCEPT

A . I . T. UNIVERSITY

'An Architecture, Innovation  
& Technology University'

## AWARD

Consolation Prize

## TEAM

Kolo Mee

## TEAM MEMBERS

1. Agnes Tan
2. Gerald Anyie Luhut
3. Alleymelda Aren Ngau
4. Kaden Norval Jee Sung Yuan
5. Chong Ying Sing

## SUPERVISING LECTURER

Ar. Brendan Tong

Our concept was to design a minimalist space that simplifies the learning method through the use of technology. We foresee that rapid technological changes also cause them to be obsolete faster than expected, and we proposed 'Minimalism' as a strategy to accommodate the changes while keeping the school multipurpose and relevant.





# SHARING SESSION ON 2023 PART III EXAMINATION PAPERS

Report by Ar. Brendan Tong, with assistance from Ar. Intan Sazali

On the 24th August 2024, PAMSC organized a sharing session between recently minted Architects and candidates of upcoming Part III exam sessions. This is a staple and annual PAMSC event that serves to enlighten both registered exam candidates, as well as Graduates who are unsure of the nature of the exam, in the answering techniques, tips, tricks and common pitfalls of the exam.

A total of three (3) Architects shared their experiences answering the exam questions, covering questions primarily extracted from the March and October 2023 papers. The event was graced by 25 very enthusiastic Graduates, who found themselves greatly benefiting from the whole day event.

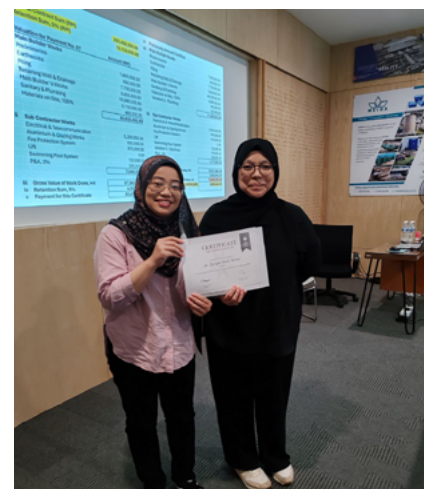
To enliven the session, Paint Manufacturer Akzo Nobel graciously sponsored the tea break and lunch for the attendees. They

also provided a short demonstration on how their latest 2 coat Dulux Weathershield Express product skips the sealer to produce the same paint performance.

On behalf of PAMSC, I would like to thank the Architects who had volunteered to share their experiences with the Graduates, namely Ar. Zuriani Binti Morni, Ar. Inessa Farhana Binti Jamil, and Ar. Norlina Binti Othman. I would also like to thank our event sponsors, Akzobobel Dulux, for their contribution to the event.

PAMSC would like to wish all the best to all candidates taking the upcoming Part 3 Examination exam. Gambateh!







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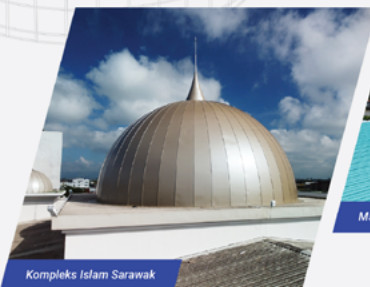


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