



**PAM**  
Pertubuhan Akitok  
Malaysia  
Sarawak Chapter

BUILDING BRIDGES

# INTERSECTION



I am grateful to be given the opportunity to serve PAM Sarawak Chapter as Chairman. I have enjoyed 16 years of warm fellowship offered by the Chapter. We thrive on the good harmony, combined with self-discipline and initiative of our team, making our Chapter one of the most active within the PAM family.

We have worked conscientiously to raise public awareness about our role in the community – in view of the recent Grenfell Incident, we translated and published articles prepared by our PAM Council to allay concerns about fire safety; we organized the ARC Charity Run to raise money for the less fortunate; held Public Design Lectures, Building Trade Show to highlight the importance of design in our lives.

Over the years, PAMSC has developed a very committed Government Liaison and Practice team. They have dedicated time and effort on the Reviewing of Sarawak Building Ordinance; to attend discussions with local Ministries and Authorities to provide input on regulations such as the recent review of the Strata Title Act and the Employment of Foreign Workers. Input and constructive ideas are constantly sought from the members, either through social media chat groups or through the conducting of workshops.

Most recently, the Chapter paid a courtesy visit to the Ministry of Local Government and Housing to assist in organizing the HDC Housing Competition.

Our Education sub-committee organized a series of Part III Exam workshops and tutorials which boosted our passing rate; congratulations to the six graduates who passed recently.

Our newsletter INTERSECTION is also well received by the members, the council members and other chapters. Special thanks to the Editorial team who have contributed their tireless efforts to promote the work of local architects, latest news on chapter events, practice, knowledge and other fun activities. We will continue to bring in more speakers especially on practice-oriented topics which (together with an attractive refreshments menu) draws members' participation.

The Chapter would like to congratulate Immediate Past Chairman Ar. Mike Boon for being elected as a Council Member involved in Government Liaison, Competition, Heritage and Conservation. We would also like to congratulate his firm for winning the PAM Gold Medal Award under the Conservation Category.

Kind regards,

**Ar. Bong Joon Hin**  
PAMSC Chairman 2017 - 18

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## BUILDING BRIDGES

A metaphor for the act of establishing connections, especially between people who are not very familiar with each other; with the aim of reaching a common goal.

We thought that it is an apt title as we usher in a new committee with a new Chairman – Ar. Bong Joon Hin (James), who has served PAMSC for the past 16 years. During this time, he has steadily and quietly built up the PAMSC Government Liaison Sub-committee (now the Practice Sub-committee) successfully linking our Chapter with the various government agencies and authorities. He has been able to do so by calling upon the experience of the senior PAM members while grooming the younger members. If you speak to him, he'll tell you more hands are needed, as our profession become more structured, and our projects more complex.

In his new role, James Bong has already reasoned with PAM Council to increase the PAMSC membership subsidy and reduced fees to KLAF for our members. Our bridge to PAMKL is reinforced by the recent election of our immediate past chairman, Ar. Mike Boon as PAM Council member.

In this issue, we feature the recent local entries for the PAM Awards 2017 – we are encouraged by the numbers of entries and urge more participation by Sarawakian firms in the future. It is a good way for us to curate local projects and to raise awareness of good design in the community. Along the same lines, we are continuing with the Public Design Lecture series – this year with the support of Nippon Paint. The first instalment of these lectures took place in April with three speakers; Abdul Hanis, winner of the Nippon Asian Young Designer Award; local practitioner, Ar. Nurina Matnor from Akitek Nurina Matnor and Teh Joo Heng from Singapore. Excerpts from their lectures can be found on the back page of this issue.

This issue would not be complete without touching on the topic of building bridges – especially now that one is being constructed across our Sarawak River; a pedestrian bridge of such gigantic proportions that one wonders if people or giants will be crossing that bridge. The former Satok Suspension Bridge is more elegant example of a pedestrian bridge. (more about that inside)

There are updates from the Hope Building team - who has started their school expansion project in Kalimantan, as well as IntoDesign Lab with their mobile school library project. Architects-on-the-move continue to amuse us with the things we do to unwind and recharge - we welcome contributions from our members. Please email us at [intersection.editorial@gmail.com](mailto:intersection.editorial@gmail.com) if you have something to share.



Cover Photo courtesy of Ms. Gabrielle Lim; artist, sketcher, teacher, and assistant manager at Saradise Art Gallery. Her work has been commissioned and exhibited widely, she is a committee member of the Sarawak Artists Society and Urban Sketchers Kuching. The above photo of her father-in-law, Tan Chuan Teng was taken in the 60's when the Satok Bridge was quite a landmark in Kuching. Mr. Tan cycled from Padungan to Satok for the photo to be taken.

It was designed by architect AS Lowe in 1902, to carry 1-foot diameter water pipes from the Matang Reservoir to Kuching Town. However, its construction only started in 1923 and completed in 1926 at the cost of USD 52,000. It was 130 metres long and 2.3 metres wide, suspended 18 metres above the Sarawak River. It was designed mainly for pedestrians, although I have seen motorcycles driven across it in my childhood.

On the 7th of October 2004, the bridge collapsed after a storm.

**Min**  
with the invaluable help and encouragement of  
Leong Pik Shia, Chen Hui Joo, Ivy Jong and Chai Si Yong.



## New Committee 2017 - 2018

Front Row Sitting (from left to right):  
**Ms. Kao Choo** (Secretariat), **Ar. Peggy Wong**,  
**Ar. Bong Joon Hin** (Chairman), **Ar. Tan Kiat Soon** (Deputy Chairman), **Ar. Leong Pik Shia**.

Back (from left to right): **Ar. Peter Wong**, **Ar. Andy Ngu Tai Kong**, **Ar. Ng Chee Wee**, **Ar. Stephen Liew**, **Ar. Ivy Jong** (Vice Chairman), **Ar. Philip Chang**, **Mr. Kevin Phua**, **Ar. Mike Boon** (Immediate Past Chairman), **Ar. Tay Buang Chuan** (Hon. Secretary), **Ar. Wee Hii Min**, **Ar. Chai Si Yong**, **Ar. Noraini Narodden**, **Ms. Suki Chai** (Secretariat).



## Graduates become corporate members

From left to right: **Ar. Wee Liang Cheng**, **Ar. Wong Ming Ming**, **Ar. Peggy Wong**, **Ar. Mohammad Royzaid bin Musa**, **Ar. Kushahrin Kushairy** & **Ar. Mitch Moss**

Congratulate the recent graduates who have passed the LAM Part 3 exams - you are officially Corporate Members! This mantle comes with great responsibility and rewards, not least of which is to remember to thank those who played a role in your success, and to pay it forward by mentoring our graduates in their Part 3 exams.

**PAMSC would also like to record our appreciation to Noraini Narodden, for her tireless efforts in mentoring our graduates, organising exam workshops and lectures.**



*Women in Power - Ivy Jong, Lillian Tay and Noraini Narodden.*

## Member's Nite 2017

This year's PAMSC's Members' Night was held at B Greenhouse Garden Bistro to commemorate the conclusion of the Building Trade Show BTS 2017, and to welcome committee members for the new term. As usual, PAM members were invited together with BTS exhibitors, there was even a surprise guest as PAM Vice President, Ar. Lilian Tay dropped by for a visit.

The Members' Night is a traditional event on our Chapter's calendar for many years. And as traditional events are liable to do, they fade in relevance and people forget their objective. The original objective would have been to introduce new members and graduates into the fraternity, and for local architects to catch up and network in a festive occasion. Nowadays, introductions and networking are carried out via social media, and fewer and fewer people show up for the members' night. For the next term, we would have to seriously re-think the necessity of this 'tradition'.



*Kevin Hong and James Huang testing their strength.*



*Time for members to let their hair down for a little silliness...*



*An occasion for young and senior members to mingle.*

## Practice & Government Liason



### A: GOVERNMENT LIAISON

A1: The Committee made a courtesy visit to Minister of Local Government and Housing Dr. Sim Kui Hian on the 8th May 2017.

Among the issues discussed were:

- i. The proposed HDC housing competition – our Committee highlighted that there are outstanding information relating to this competition; the Ministry promised to get back to PAMSC after they clarified the status.
- ii. PAMSC will compile issues regarding building plan submission for the next JTCC Meeting.

A2: Engagement of stakeholders on Employment of expatriates and foreign workers by Sarawak State Government.

- i. PAMSC has expressed concern on the lengthy and complicated criteria required to fulfil the engagement of foreign architects.
- ii. PAMSC proposed to allow a special criteria for sole proprietors and partnership on top of Sendirian Berhad Practice.
- iii. To allow a simplified procedure to extend existing work permits for foreigner architects/staff.

A3: Department of Irrigation and Drainage Sarawak in organizing a dialogue on Sarawak Urban Stormwater Management Guidelines on 7th July 2017. Architects are invited to attend and provide inputs.

A4: Circular from MBKS

- i. Entrance Ramps to all Buildings  
 MBKS has issued circular highlighted that the council will not entertain any entrance ramps not built in accordance to approved engineering plans. Any enquiries shall refered to the engineering division. Circular was circulated to all members.

### B: PRACTICE

PAMSC conducted a Practice workshop on the 6th of May 2017 on Stage Certification, during which it was proposed that the minimum fees for stage completion certifications shall be charged at a rate of RM50 minimum per stage per unit.

The matter was referred to PAM Council and awaiting for clarifications as it had been previously circulated to members. LAM as will also reviewing the charges for different stage of certification. On top of that, LAM is also reviewing the followings acts:

- i. Referral to civil court will not automatically grant letter of release to the employer/ developer.
- ii. To study the details and functions as stakeholders for fee collection.
- iii. Amendment of Act to allow Limited Liability Partnership to allow company with singer director etc.

Reported by **Ar. Bong Joon Hin**

## CPD Seminars

### Architecture & Nation Building: Multiculturalism & Democracy

Date: 18 February 2017  
 Venue: PAMSC Centre  
 Speaker: Professor Dr. Mohamad Tajuddin bin Haji Mohamad Rasdi



### Achieving Industrialised Building System (IBS) with Fibre Cement Solutions

Date: 20 May 2017  
 Venue: PAMSC Centre  
 Speaker: Mr. Azrul Izwan Ismail



### Contract Administration – The Time Extension Conundrum

Date: 17 June 2017  
 Venue: PAMSC Centre  
 Speaker: Ar. Thurai Das Thuraisingham



### Insurance Topic on Professional Indemnity Architect

Date: 8th July 2017  
 Venue: PAMSC Centre  
 Speaker: Mr. Khoo Kang Wu



Fort Alice



Aquatic Centre



UiTM Mukah



Kompleks Islam Sarawak



Masjid Husni Warrahana



Sekolah Kebangsaan Landeh

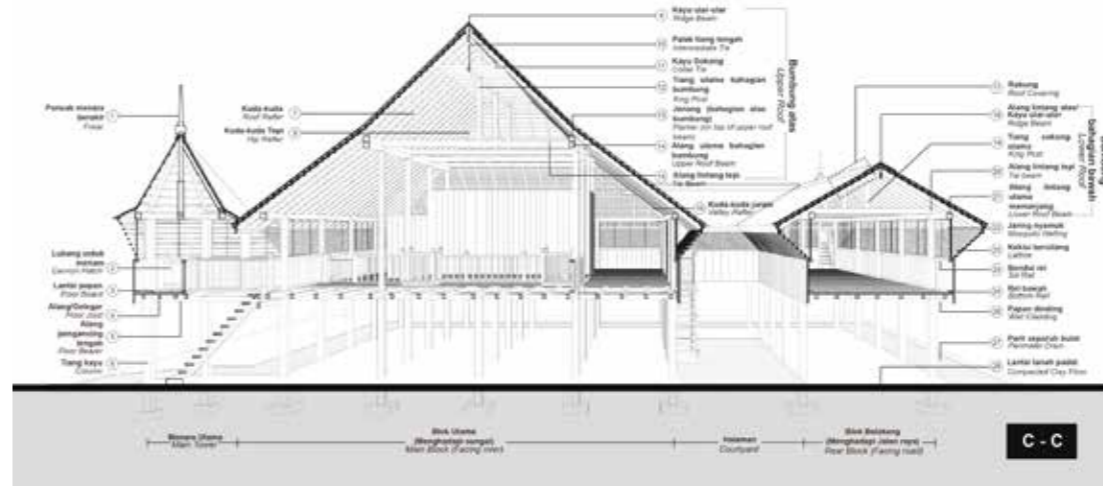
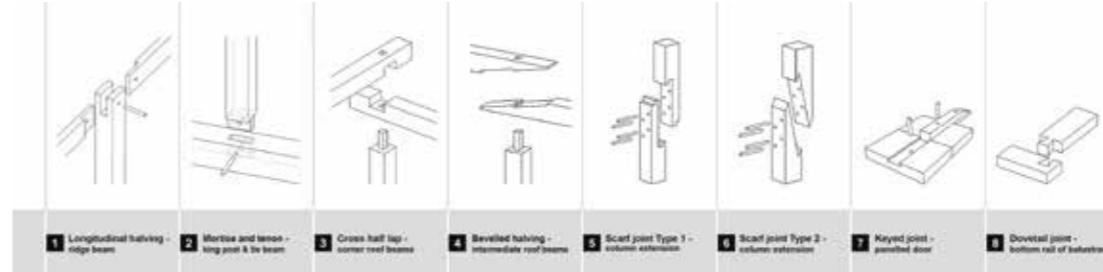
Excerpt from PAM Awards Web page -

The annual PAM Awards is the premier award for architecture in Malaysia where it recognizes the contribution made by architects in terms of design quality and that of the built environment. It is likened to the Academy Awards of the film industry and in this respect, awards are bestowed on the best works which are recognised by peers and public alike in the architectural industry.

There was general acknowledgement by PAM that the standard and quality of the awarded projects have shown significant improvement and maturity. And to my Sarawakian eyes, there seemed to be more entries from us in recent years. But still not enough given that there are more than 65 firms registered in the State. Based on my personal experience with INTERSECTION's editorial team, there is a reluctance from local architects to showcase their work, and submitting them for peer review, as it were. Is it some sort of inferiority complex? Do we feel that the boys across the 'pond' are better or have better clients, resources, opportunities? And hence 'not need to compete la...' Or is it simply laziness? Too busy chasing fees?

Fortunately, some local firms don't feel that this way and took the time to submit their projects for the PAM Awards 2017 - in this issue we are crediting them for their efforts. For those who submitted and won recognition, we congratulate you. And for those who were reviewed but not shortlisted - time to reflect on what more could have been done and try again. Speaking again from personal experience, it's not the quality of the 3D rendering nor formatting of the presentation panels as some are led to believe. The path to an award-worthy project starts at the inception and continues until it is built (and occupied).

So, is it a waste of time if one does not win? No. Here are 5 reasons why not: one - submitting a project teaches you (and your office) about the amount of work that goes into each submission and prepares you for future submissions; two - it teaches you that documentation of the project from design through construction until completion is crucial, and that judges are like our university professors, they want to know about your process; three - submitting your projects allows you to benchmark your work against your peers' and hopefully acts as a catalyst for self development; four - it is rewarding for your design team to see their work acknowledged by you and by others (especially if it wins a prize) and finally - it is an excellent way to curate your physical body of work, and more importantly - it can be a way to curate the maturing of your design thinking.



Conservation - Gold

## CONSERVATION OF FORT ALICE FOR ADAPTIVE REUSE AS LOCAL HERITAGE MUSEUM

Architect : Arkitek JFN Sdn Bhd  
Client : Jabatan Kerja Raya Sarawak  
Builder : Pembinaan Leyan Sdn Bhd

Architect's Statement

**Fort Alice** is a significant outpost built by the Brookes administration in 1864. The dilapidated timber fort is conserved through preservation, restoration and reconstruction of its fabrics informed by thorough research. Traditional tools, detailing and finishing skills rediscovered and acquired through this project serves to sustain and gives impetus to local crafts. The conservation process is duly documented to afford a guide for future conservation of historical timber forts in Sarawak. A community engagement programme is introduced alongside of the project to encourage public participation thereby instilling local pride and developing a sense of belonging. Upon completion of this conservation effort, the fort regains its rightful status in the historical development of the township.

## Jury's Citation

"The attention to details reflected throughout the old fort is truly amazing whilst the effort expended in engaging the local community to partake in preserving history for the future generation is just as spectacular."



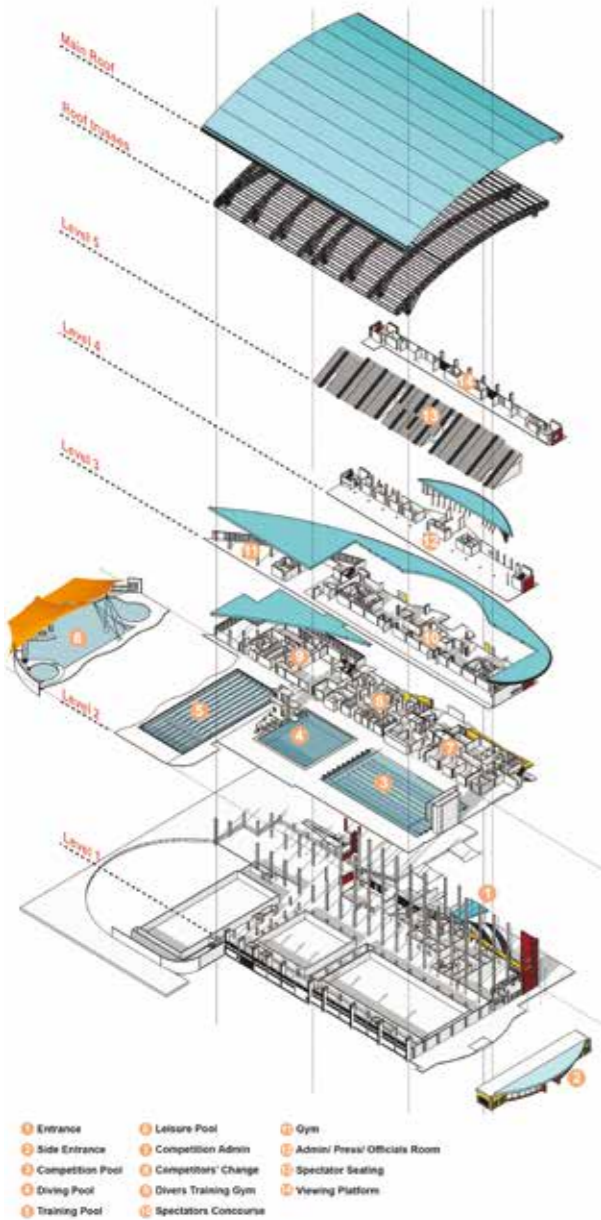
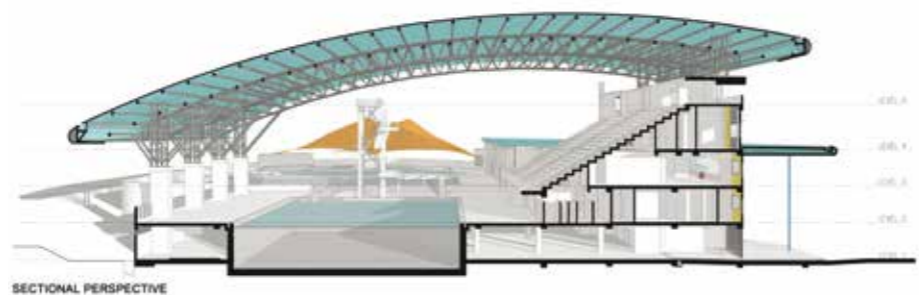
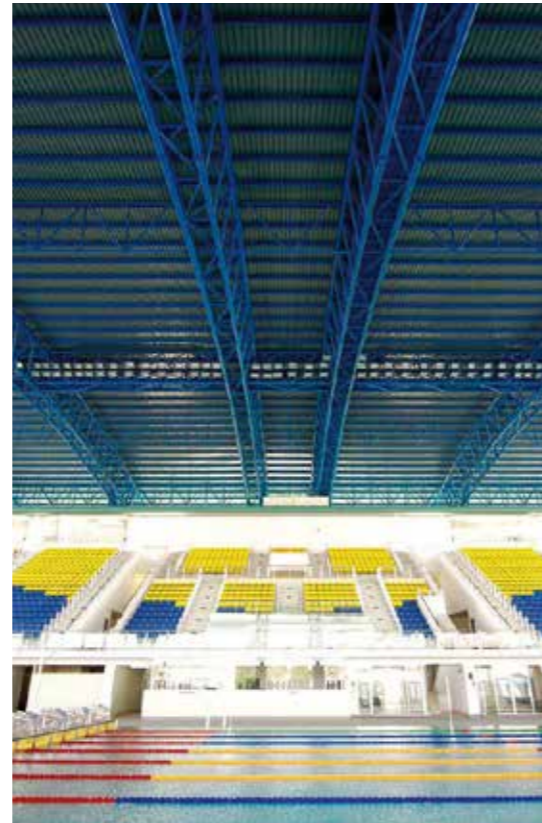
Sports & Recreation  
- Shortlisted

# AQUATIC CENTRE SARAWAK SPORT COMPLEX

Architect : Perunding Dayacipta  
Client : Kementerian Pembangunan Sosial  
Builder : PPES Works (Sarawak) Sdn. Bhd -  
PN Construction Sdn. Bhd JV

## Architect's Statement

The Aquatic Centre is a centre of excellence for diving competitions with inspirations drawn from the recent success of our divers in international arenas. This world class training facility consists of Competition, Training and Diving Pools with a grandstand to seat 2,070 spectators. A large sweeping curved roof extends to hover the main elevation where a generous pedestrian ramp and grand staircase welcome spectators as they meander past slender columns which front the forecourt of the stadium.



## Education - Entries

# UiTM MUKAH

Architect : Jurubina Unireka  
Client : UiTM  
Builder : Kumpulan Parabena Sdn Bhd /  
Hock Seng Lee Berhad JV

## Architect's Statement

The UiTM Mukah Campus is designed to house 2,000 students on 60 acres of land with a man-made lake and stream as the major landscape element that tying all the administration-academic-hostel blocks together.

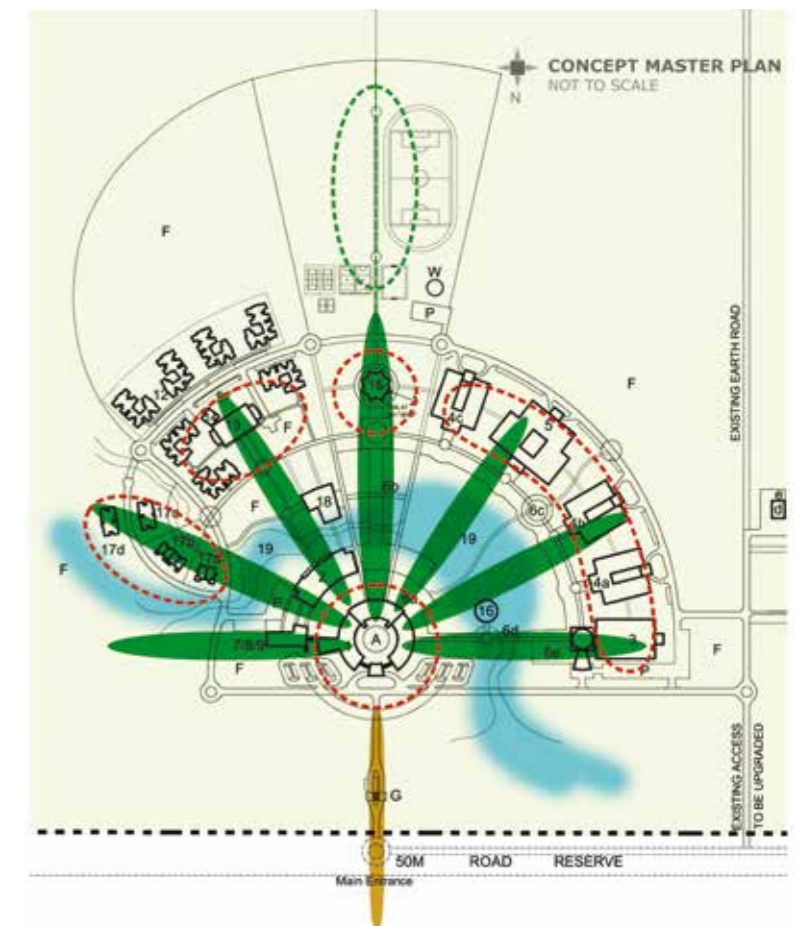
The unique master plan concept intends to 'take a leaf from the nature' by adopting the natural organic growth of 'leaf' form as the primary order of layout planning concept.

The morphology of the 'leaf' is also very useful and appropriate as an analogy to the campus planning in term of the landscaped 'clustering' that allows for complementary Functional Zoning; and 'Organic growth pattern' that allows for flexibility in future expansion of campus facilities.

The main aim of the design of the UiTM Mukah Campus is to create a campus that celebrates the unique Mukah's geo-cultural heritage 'Water Village' and fusion with the modern contemporary teaching and learning space.

The design for the Campus offers an opportunity for social integration through a series of connective walk between all the blocks and the spaces within the blocks. The network of pedestrian walk and horizontal vistas within the 'semi-circular' organisation of the campus enables the students, the teaching staffs and faculty members to meet and communicate with each other through a network of meeting points.

Building design consideration includes the building orientation and sun shading in relation to the sun path, along with the incorporation of maximum ventilation and daylight to all buildings.





Alteration & Addition  
- Entries

## MASJID HUSNI WARRAHMAH TAMAN HUSSIEN

Architect : Affrin Architect & Associate Sdn Bhd  
Client : Jawatankuasa Masjid Darul Husni Warrahmah  
Builder : Dynamic Wave Sdn Bhd

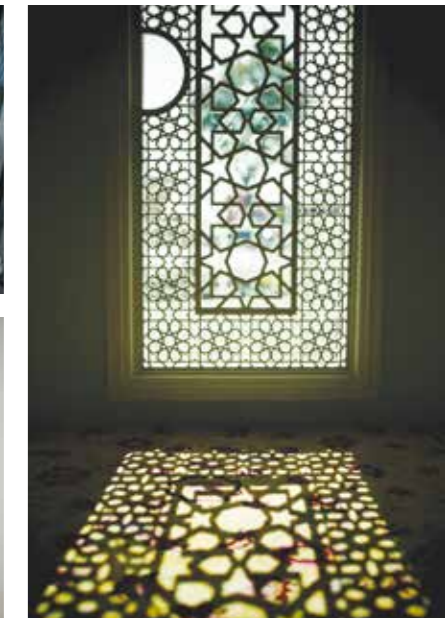
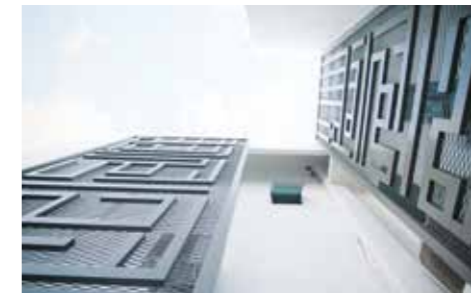
### Architect's Statement

Inspiration came from kalimah 'la illa ha illallah' and the humble cube form of the Ka'aba. From the cube form, spaces are created through extrusion process. The building attempts to be pure in its form and dressed with kalimah letterings in Kufi. The building will be visible and symbolizes gateway to Petra Jaya. The building attempts to strike a balance between spatial requirement, energy efficiency, and breaking the traditional mosque form. Mosque are designed to face the Qibla and this is towards West East direction (from the vantage point of the Mosque site). Sun glare and heat gain pose discomfort and hence these are managed through usage of external screen with Kufi lettering of the Kalimah.

The upgrading and renovation resulted in a near 100% overhaul from the original construction and simplistic design, the latter which was a commonplace scenario in locales where religious buildings were built more for mainly practical functionality in mind and often always disregarding the aesthetic.

Positioning of skylights and wall carvings along with handcrafted murals and calligraphies capture significant amount of natural sunlight therefore minimising usage of electricity for lightings purposes.

Selection of dome amid the high ceiling embodies the identity of the building as an Islamic religious centre ie for prayers, congregations pertaining to Islamic festivities located within a spacious environment filled with natural lights and natural ventilations.



Public & Institutional  
- Entries

## KOMPLEKS ISLAM SARAWAK DAN PUSAT KOMERSIAL

Architect : Affrin Architect & Associate Sdn Bhd  
Client : Majlis Agama Islam Sarawak  
Builder : Riaplus Sdn Bhd

### Architect's Statement

Based on Alhambra design, the idea was to encapsulate attributes of Islamic architecture assimilated into modernistic concepts while still retaining the building functions without sacrificing aspects of cost minimisation and green building attributes. The strength of this design lies in the application of mystical centuries-old purity in artwork and forms skilfully merged and concretized into reality indirectly highlighting towards historical aspect of Islamic architecture into current generation awareness of Alhambra within the city of Granada, symbolising 900 years of Islamic civilisation in Andalucia region in Spain during the 15th Century.

The design seeks to achieve cost minimisation in terms of energy utility, safety matters which is reflected into choices of building materials crafted following design specifications. The construction of KIS Miri serves as a new landmark in Miri city and Sarawak state, adding new visions and new character to Miri through synergising classical artistic concepts from the far east into an aspiring modern structure albeit in the midst of 21st century technology and cityscape.



Education - Entries

## SEKOLAH KEBANGSAAN LANDEH

Architect : Affrin Architect & Associate Sdn Bhd  
Client : Kementerian Pelajaran Malaysia  
Builder : Semaju Construction Sdn Bhd

### Architect's Statement

The sojourn of knowledge towards further education and understanding the sojourn of shelter in flood. The concept is a 'boat'. The boat as a vehicle for children. The bow of the boat is manifested through the shape of the roof over the atrium. It is through design, space planning, and usage of primary and bright colours, that the building can affect and motivate children to be inspired during their quest towards education and knowledge acquisition.

The design aims to affect and inspire children from an early age when the thirst for knowledge influenced by curiosity and natural inclination to develop interests in their surroundings are high and hence can be further maximised through the appropriate channel ie education within a school that is holistically designed for the children. The intention behind the design scheme was successfully translated on human height alphabet 'A, B, C' to the kindergarten building structure.

Hours of detailed analysis and planning strategy including site investigation have enabled the thorough design concept to be concretized into the present establishment as envisioned by the designers, client and end-users ultimately encompassing the students and academic personnel.



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# building hope

by Sean Wee

This is a follow-up to our previous article on Mount Hope in April.



Elevation of the refurbished classroom building - existing walls are removed to create open areas for school activities.

**Mount Hope** (Yayasan Bukit Pengharapan) is a team of people from different parts of Indonesia, who left their home and families to serve in this less developed part of Indonesia, using their skills and abilities to open doors for the community. It is part of a church organisation founded by Sam and Carol Soukotta.



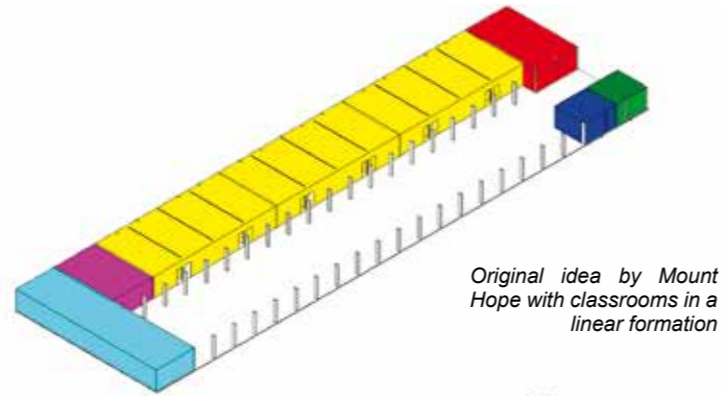
One of our meetings with Craig & Toni from Mount Hope.

After the scheme was discussed with and approved by Mount Hope, 16 of us volunteered to spend a couple of days to get things started.

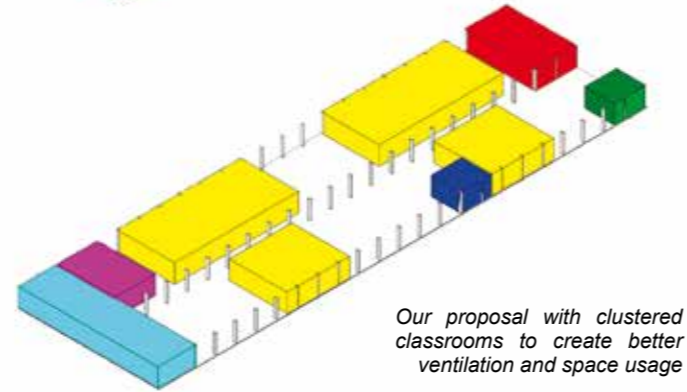
We headed down to West Kalimantan on the 2nd of July and stayed overnight to help prepare for the construction of the structures.



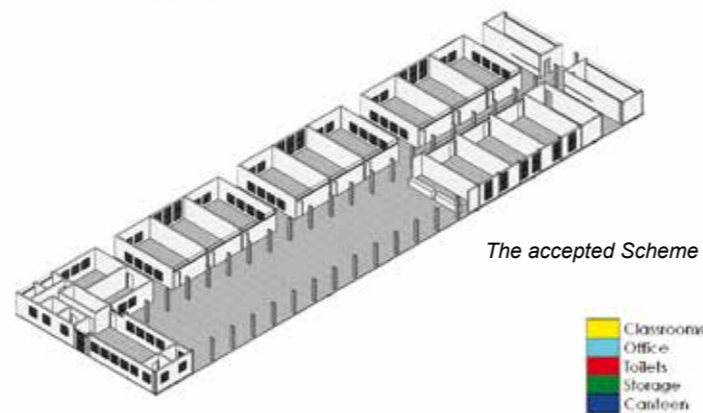
Briefing Sam & Carol Soukotta about the new school building.



Original idea by Mount Hope with classrooms in a linear formation

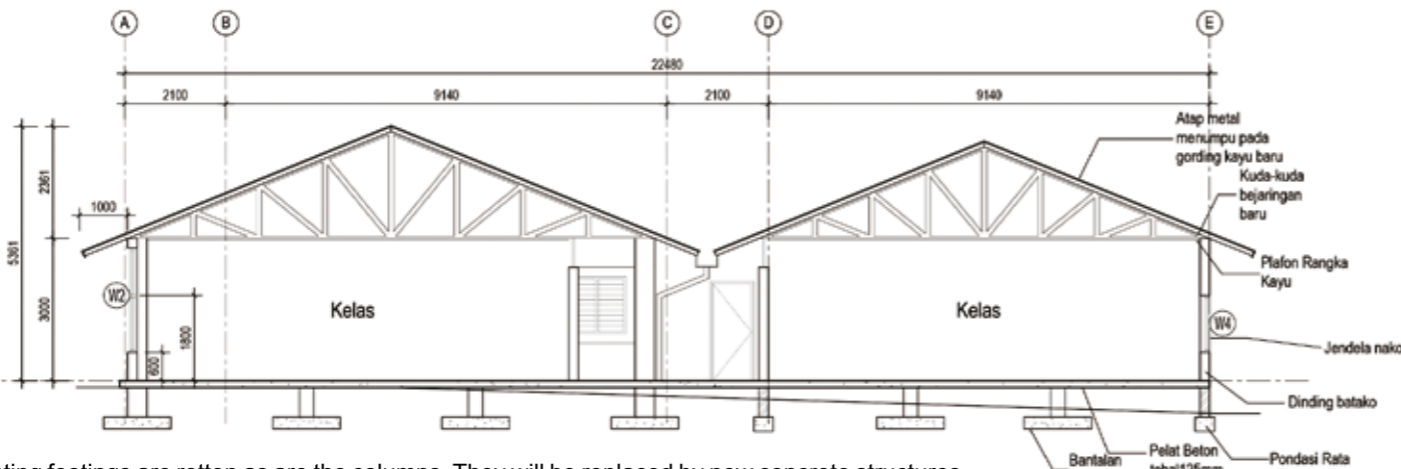


Our proposal with clustered classrooms to create better ventilation and space usage



The accepted Scheme

- Classroom
- Office
- Toilet
- Storage
- Carletern



Existing footings are rotten as are the columns. They will be replaced by new concrete structures. A new RC slab will be cast on top of the existing timber floor which will act as permanent formwork.



View from the teacher's quarters.

## CONSTRUCTION WORK



Digging the holes for new pad footings at the building's rear.



Getting the young ones involved.



A few weeks later, footings were cast.

The Mount Hope building team have now recently begun stripping parts of the existing timber flooring to cast new footings and columns.



Yayasan Bukit Pengharapan is home to 500 students - 150 of whom board at the school. Some of them worked with us over the weekend.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH



The existing primary school building.





## Architects on the Move (Round 3/4)



"I run because it feels good to be able to run and I feel better after a run."

**Lance Lim**  
SML Architects



**Brendan Tong**



**Alexander Tan Zhi De**



"My family and friends encourage me to swim, I can't swim and talk at the same time."

**Ar. Wee Hii Min**



"I joined Infinite Youth Qi Gong initially to improve my meridian problems. After realising this Qi Gong can help in the recovery from different types of illness and depression, and a platform to learn the philosophy of life - I have become more committed in my practice."

**Ar. Bong Joon Hin**  
PAMSC Chairman

"...running helps me meditate \*pant\*love the evening sun & the outdoors."

**Ar. Felix Wee**



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## School Informality

Studio Design 6 (Diploma in Architecture) / Feb 2017

SJK Chung Hua Pangkalan Baru will be celebrating its 100th anniversary next year, a century of education from 1918 - 2018. The school is also eyeing the future expansion and upgrading of the school's facilities, which we adopted as our final semester design project. Students were asked to consider the following in their design approach:

1. Incorporate the ideology of 21st century classroom, which focuses on the areas of Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Communication and Creativity.
2. Challenge the existence and relevance of the traditional classroom and school typology in today's context;
3. Re-evaluate the role of teacher and students.

The project intended to:

- A. Question the appropriateness of a typical school layout
- B. Introduce architecture that can enrich the existing context of the site, engage the local community and celebrate its 100 years of history.
- C. Expose students to a 'realistic project' (whether the project is going to kick-off or not depending on funding), designing for 'real client' and end-users.
- D. Introducing architecture to the primary school and importance of design in learning environment.
- E. Explore design ideas in school, to bring awareness to the teachers about design solutions.

The outcome of the design studio showed a variety of schemes with different design strategies in improving current school typology. Some approaches were formal while others were informal.

Teachers and students were able to give constructive comments when it comes to dealing with their study environment.

Studio final presentation was held at the Primary School; teachers, students and parents were able to imagine the real scale of every scheme during on-site presentation.

A crit session that brings the children, parents and teachers to have a real experience of what a 21st Century classroom could be.



Play Home, Wong Wei Wei



School of Tomorrow, Gordon Ngu



The Calligraphy, Vivian Wong



Forest of Memoir, Karla Anne Lu

“To SJK Pangkalan Baru teachers and head-master Mdm Jong, my students Annette, Karla, Vivian, Wei Wei, Peggy, Marvin, Gordon, Hafizh & Izaac, who contributed and participated in this learning experience, I express my thanks and gratitude. Special thanks to Lau Chun Leong, Saiful Amry and Suan for their assistance in this semester's design studio.”

Text by **Tay Tze Yong**  
Part-time lecturer at LIC, Borneo Campus



*"Bayan Atuh means " Tall Bamboo Bridge" in Bidayuh, which is really appropriate as we encountered many of these tall bamboo bridges when we did our ground survey. Their elegant design and efficient engineering reflect the spirit and the culture of the people there - taking only what they need from the environment coupled with an in depth knowledge of the building material.*



The villagers worked 'gotong-royong' style to support our run.



430 participants converged at Kampong Nyenggol to experience its unique beauty.

## Building bridges - the Bayan Atuh Trail Run 2018

By Awang Saifuluddin @ GritEvent

The idea of Bayan Atuh\* Trail Run came about during our meeting with Rahim Bugo, the Managing Director of Permai Rainforest Resort in February. We were talking about our upcoming trail run, we had organised two trail runs at Permai last year and were thinking of continuing it again this year. But then Rahim thought of something even better - a trail run at Kampung Nyegol near the Bengoh Dam. While we were at first keen to explore new 'sites' we were daunted by the logistical challenge - it is ONLY accessible by boat! Rahim convinced us to visit the kampong and meet the locals before we decided.

So, on a cold Sunday morning, we embarked on a journey across the calm waters of Bengoh Dam. Since the construction of the dam, the kampongs have been abandoned. The views overlooking the dam from two of these abandoned villages; Kampung Sting and Kampung Semban were eerily beautiful. Once we started trekking and saw the amazing trails with their stunning views; we changed our minds.

But there was plenty of work to be done.

After the villagers relocated to the Bengoh Resettlement Scheme, most of the trails and the bridges linking the kampongs have been neglected and in poor condition. In April this year, as we sat down to work on the run, we were told about a co-op company called Bayan Atuh Ecotourism Zone. The organisation was created to assist the villagers to promote their kampong as a sustainable tourist destination. And it is hoped that in doing so, it would encourage the younger people to stay in Kampung Nyenggol to maintain their village and establish home stays in the area.

We decided to use the run as a community engagement project and work with the villagers to publicise their kampong and to create job opportunities. There was a buzz of excitement as they assigned tasks for everyone - those with boats provided transport, others became run-marshals while another group cooked for the runners. Most importantly, the villagers worked 'gotong-royong' style to re-build the very bridges that the run was named after.

We expected 350 participants but ended up with 430 participants from all over Malaysia, as well as Singapore, Indonesia and Brunei. We gave them a reason to work together to re-build, the villagers repaid us with a gift of hospitality and care, and shared with us the beauty of their culture and their home. They are already planning for next year's run.

In the end, I believe that we are all mere passengers on this spaceship earth and each of us need to play a role in making it a sustainable journey for all of us.

We need to continue bridging the gap.



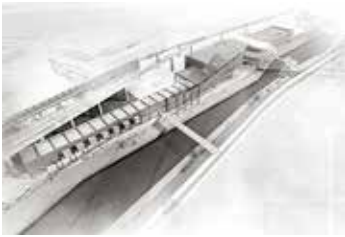
View of the Bengoh Dam.

# Public Design Lecture Series 2.1

5 May 2017



PAMSC is proud to work with NIPPON Paint on the second series of Public Design Lectures. These are aimed at bringing design awareness to the general public. Each event will comprise 3 speakers - a former winner of Nippon Paint's Asia Young Designer Award, a local designer and an invited keynote.



**NWKA ARCHITECTS,**  
Hanis Abdul Razak

Hanis's talk was in two distinct parts - he talked about his work as the Head of Design Studio at NWKA Architects; urbane and contemporary solutions for public buildings. This contrasted with Hanis's university works such as his final year project "CoCA KL-Contingent space for contingent people" which won him the title of Nippon Paint Young Designer Award 2012.



**ARKITEK NURINA MATNOR,**  
Ar. Nurina Matnor

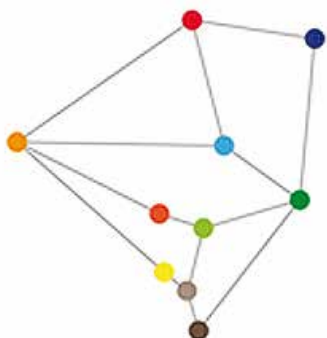
Arkitek Nurina Matnor used her portfolio of projects in the public and private sector to display her firm's ability to produce good design solutions within a modest budget. Nurina talked along the vein of 'less can be more' - the next few years will tell if her practice will undergo the transformation that she predicts is taking place in Sarawak.



**TEH JOO HENG ARCHITECTS,**  
Teh Joo Heng, Singapore

Through a small selection of his projects, Teh demonstrated the discipline and rigour that is required to create imaginative and innovative design solutions to conventional design problems: often crafting solutions with fellow consultants, and in one project - negotiating budget expenditure with the client to retain the structure of an existing building as part of the proposed scheme. He brings a fresh perspective to the design process, one that respects the traditional built environment and regional culture as heritage while embracing new technological possibilities.

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