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News+FLASH is the digital offspring of INTERSECTION. It is published digitally each fortnight for the foreseeable future, until we run out of ideas, articles or money.



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Joint Committee of Sarawak Construction Consultants (JCSCC)

n 3rd April 2023, the first meeting of JCSCC was successfully held at ACEM Sarawak Branch office at King Centre, Kuching. The members of the joint committee consisted of:

- Association of Consulting Engineers Malaysia (ACEM) Sarawak Branch
- Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia Sarawak Chapter (PAMSC)
- Royal Institute of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM) Sarawak Branch
- Association of Consulting Architects Malaysia (ACAM)
- Association of Consulting Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (ACQSM)

The formation of this joint committee is to better represent the common views and issues of members of the government agencies and other relevant authorities. With the joint effort of all members, we can have a bigger voice dealing with the government or any stakeholders regarding laws, regulations, policies, guidelines and circulars on practices of the built environment in Sarawak.

ACEM Sarawak is taking the lead as chairman of the joint committee for the time being. The chairmanship will be on rotating among its members, the secretariat shall be at the ACEM Sarawak office.

🋞 SELAMAT HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI, MAAF ZAHIR DAN BATIN 🎆

Peggy & Foster

Written by Ar. Jeffrey Yeung



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After our Sunday lunch at Electric Diner on Portobello Road, London, we were invited by Foster and Partner's Associate (F+P) - Ar. Peggy Wong to visit her office the next day. F+P is known for its innovative use of technology and sustainability principles in its designs, as well as its focus on creating buildings that are not only functional but also visually striking and iconic. Peggy joined F+P's project management studio as a project manager in 2021.

ord Norman Foster first founded the practice with his late wife, Wendy Cheesman in 1967. The current F+P office is located at the end of the Battersea Bridge next to the River Thames, spread over several buildings. Since then, F+P has become an architectural iconic global brand. The company currently consists of 10 Senior Executive Partners, 53 Senior Partners, 138 Partners, 251 Associate Partners and 310 Associates. All the partners are automatically shareholders. Currently, the 1874-strong company comprises six design studios, made up of 975 architects. The remaining supporting teams include Engineering, BIM, Project Management, Document Control, Applied R&D, Construction Design and Management, Construction Review Group, Design Communications, Fire Safety, Industrial Design, Materials Research and Innovation Centre, Specialist Modelling Group, Specification, Visualisation and Film, Workplace Consultancy. The incredible success achieved by F+P through unwavering discipline, effective and trusting leadership, and a culture of innovation is truly inspiring.

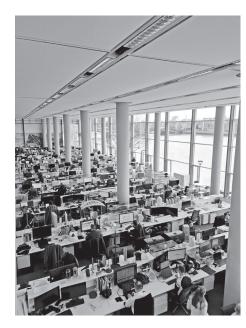






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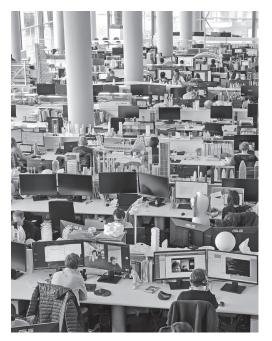




Although things may appear rosy, the reality is that not everything is perfect. Towards the end of 2021, after enduring the tough belttightening pandemic years, F+P needed to explore long-term structures for the practice "that would respond to the challenges and opportunities of growth and encourage the next generation of leadership", and in October 2021 a Toronto-based family investment firm, Hennick & Company, became the biggest shareholder of the practice, while Norman Foster and his family still retain a controlling interest and the existing leadership team retained responsibility for day-to-day operations. The business these days primarily focuses on conceptual design, design development, and documentation. As many of their projects are mostly across our globe, (some projects reach as far as Mars), Contract Administration is therefore left to the local team to complete the project.

After visiting several of the design studios, Peggy and I sat down for a nice, subsidized cup of tea (the cost is deducted automatically from Peggy's salary) at one of F+P staff cafeteria cum library cum meeting point, which was filled with F+P own line of furniture. We chatted about the amazing organizational structure of F+P, politics, the future of young architects in corporate practices, and the unaffordable rental market in London, and fondly reminiscing about the old times back in Kuching.













F+P is widely regarded as one of the most influential practices of our time. They have made a significant impact in the architectural industry through their innovative designs, their use of cutting-edge technology and materials, and their commitment to sustainability. I remember stepping inside one of the most iconic projects designed by Foster and Partners - Chek Lap Kok airport in Hong Kong for the first time in 1999, just after I started my architecture training in Year One, I was immediately struck by the sheer beauty and space. The airport was built on a reclaimed island and opened in 1998, replacing the old Kai Tak airport in Kowloon Wall City. The new airport's design features a large, open terminal that is flooded with natural light and one of the most unique features of the airport is its distinctive roof that spans over 1.2 kilometres. The memorable triangulated ceiling (like Issey Miyaki's Bao Bao Bag) with partially exposed steel arches is not just visually stunning, but also serves an important function, helping to distribute weight evenly across the roof structure and reducing the need for columns or supports.

The design of the airport is both functional and innovative, with a focus on creating an efficient and streamlined experience for travellers. The layout of the interior is carefully planned, with clear signage and easy-to-navigate pathways. The space is also filled with natural light, thanks to the use of skylights and expansive windows that offer stunning views of the surrounding landscape. As you move through the space, you can't help but be



impressed by the level of planning and attention to detail that went into the design and construction of the airport. Everything from the placement of seating areas to the wayfinding signage feels deliberate and thoughtful, creating a seamless and enjoyable experience for travellers. And yet, for all its size and complexity, the airport also manages to be both functional and beautiful, creating an unforgettable experience for travellers from all over the world.

Thank you Ar. Peggy for the once in a lifetime experience, and ChatGPT for answering all my ridiculous questions and proofreading.

WHAT DO ARCHITECTS DO ALL DAY?

This section attempts to sum up the architects' busy day in a series of snapshots - this is Peng Hui Lee's contribution this issue.

Our readers are invited to submit their 'day's experiences' as well - email to intersection.editorial@gmail.com



12.30am - Arrived in KL after an 8.5 hour drive from Penang.



8.30am - Sent my youngest boy to school.



9.00am - Post-meeting work... minutes, planning, drafting...



10.30am - work + caffeine + food.



11.30am - Office furniture showroom visit - part 1.



1.00pm - Lunch with colleagues + catching up.



2.30pm - Office furniture showroom visit - part 2.



6.00pm - Picked up my boys from tuition, then headed home.



9.00pm - The best time to work; for another couple of hours.



Attention Kuching! We're thrilled to announce that we're hosting our 10th PechaKucha event at the Kantin, Granary!

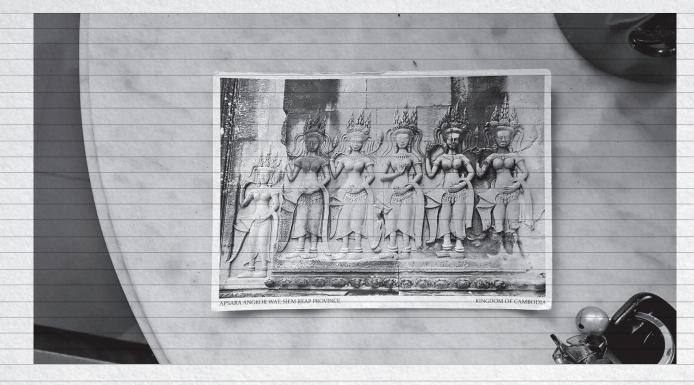
What is PechaKucha? PechaKucha is a fast-paced presentation format where speakers share their ideas, projects, and stories in just 6 minutes and 40 seconds. With ten events under our belt, we've seen some incredible presentations that have left audiences inspired, entertained, and educated.

So come celebrate with us and be part of this exciting milestone. Join us for a memorable night of creativity and community as we showcase the best of Kuching's ideas and talent.

Register here: <u>https://forms.gle/RZAArSJHPQVLTZ3W8</u>

How about dinner?

Written by Min



She walked up to Sam as we were leaving Angkor Wat. It was getting dark and the visitors were hurrying home. "Buy postcard, Miss?" she asked. "No, thank you, we don't need postcards" Sam hurried on. And when the young postcard seller persisted - "how about dinner?" Sam offered. It took a moment for the offer to sink in before accepting. "Ok". She looked 13 but could well have been 16 or older.

Afterwards, from our tuk-tuk back to the hotel, I caught a glimpse of our postcard seller on her bike - her packet of noodles and bottle of Coke hanging from the handle-bars. She turned off onto a dirt road. I tried to keep track of her in between the silhouette of trees until she disappeared into the dusk.

Later the evening, Sam told me that the girl had 'paid' for her dinner with a postcard.

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