Vivas

Amr Elwan [after one of the longest vivas on record!] and Ruth Blacksell have successfully passed their PhDs in the last few months. Many congratulations! Amr’s thesis was entitled: "Urban Neighbourhood Redesign in Hot Climate Zones: Coupled Outdoor-Indoor Assessment Framework for Climate Change Scenarios." Ruth’s thesis: "Typography After Conceptual Art".

Conference Papers and Presentations

Dr Chengzhi Peng presented a paper co-authored with Amr Elwan "How Hot Can the University Campus Get in 2050? Environmental Simulation of Climate Change Scenarios at an Urban Neighborhood Scale" at SimAUD 2013, San Diego, USA, 8-11 April.

Julia Udal and Sukaina Almousa recently attended the annual interdisciplinary Stadtkolloquium at UCL, which was really interesting. It had three strands—economies, complexity, assemblages and the post colonial city. Julia presented Tools for commoning: collectively renegotiating value with the Little Mesters around economies, Sukaina presented work on Temporary architecture: An Urban Mirage see http://www.stadtkolloquium.co.uk/annual-workshop/2013-workshop


Sara Mahdizadeh presented a paper on The role of religion and tradition in garden conservation; A case study of Qadamgah tomb-garden, Neyshabur, Iran to the Islamic Architecture session at The Midwest Art History Society 40th Annual Conference in Columbus Ohio, March 21–23.

Several PhD students will be presenting their work at the 10th Annual AHRA Research Student Symposium, which will be held at the Department of Architecture and Built Environment, Lund University, Sweden on 3rd May, including Maryam Fazel, Phil Langley, and Shuntaro Nozawa.

Marta Brkovic will present a poster at the Living Sustainable Community School Collaboration event in the Netherlands between 13–15th May.

Lakshmi Priya Rajendran will present An Interdisciplinary approach towards understanding self-identity-place relationships at the LCSS PhD Conference 2013 on Methodological Choices and Challenges, King’s College London, 19th April, and Identity constructions and negotiations in multicultural environments at the ‘Assembling Identities’ Post graduate/Early Career Research conference, University of Glasgow, 23rd-24th May.

Awards & Placements

With an Erasmus grant, Ruxandra Berinde is currently undertaking a period of study at the Critical Theory Department at KTH, Stockholm, developing archival research, fieldwork and interviews with common collaborators of two directors central to her PhD: Andrei Tarkovsky and Ingmar Bergman,
both of whom were active in Stockholm.

**Helen Stratford** is currently undertaking an artist’s residency at the *Celje Contemporary Art Centre in Slovenia*, exploring how performance-based interventions in public space might research how the design of the built environment and the use of space affects how places are perceived.

**Shuntaro Nozawa** has been awarded a *Ohbayashi Foundation* (Tokyo, Japan) grant for 300,000 JPY to support his PhD research.

The Faculty have approved scholarships for *Sarah Joyce*, *Marinela Petrina Pasca*, and *Rui Miguel Reerreira dos Santos*, who will begin PhDs in October.

**PG student initiatives**

The first *DESIGN CONVERSATION* will be held on Thursday 18th April in the Floor 9 kitchen between 13:00 — 14:00. Pouyan Akbari suggested will initiate a conversation about the 'future of capitalism and its effect on urban design and architecture'. All Welcome.

**Teaching and Research**

*RESEARCH TRAINING*

**Visual Methods Symposium** organized by Prue Chiles on February 7th for PhD by Design programme, with presentations by *Amanda Ravetz* (MMU), *Penny McCarthy* (SHU), *Huw Wah*, and *Becky Shaw* (SHU).

There are many modules offering *Advanced Research Methods* training and *Career Development* training in a variety of areas: see what’s on offer, and book, at the following webpage:

http://ris.dept.shef.ac.uk/skills_seminars/listings/index/6

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS** of 2+year PhDs will take place on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th June. Tatjana Schneider will circulate details of the event. This will be an informal and supportive forum for PhD student who have just successfully upgraded to present and discuss aspects of their work. All welcome!

**PROGRESS REPORTS** The School of Architecture is reintroducing progress reports for PhD students, which will have to be completed twice each year: There are 3 reports in total, 1 to be completed by the student, 1 to be completed by the 1st supervisor, and 1 to be completed together. The purpose of these reports is to provide an update on what you’ve been up to, on your study, progress, and so on. The combined form should be used to reflect together on the research so far. Tatjana Schneider has sent out relevant invitations to GoogleDocs that you should use to complete these forms.

**LANGUAGE SUPPORT**

Departamental Language Support will continue for Masters and first year PhD students in the School on Mondays from 2-4.30 pm in rooms 17.06/17.07 for the five weeks: 8, 15, 22 and 29 April and 13 May. You can sign up for 30-minute individual tutorials to get feedback on your writing or book a group slot if you prefer. Please email the tutor, Deborah, for details. Her email is d.cobbett@sheffield.ac.uk and she will reply as soon as possible. We strongly encourage students to attend these sessions.

Deborah also needs also some feedback from PGT tutors about first semester assignments. She will use this feedback to develop approaches to writing problems with PGT students. Contact: Deborah Cobbett D.Cobbett@sheffield.ac.uk.

**DISABILITY AND DYSLEXIA**

For those who are not aware, please note that the University offers support for Disabled and Dyslexic Students: [http://www.shef.ac.uk/ssd/ddss](http://www.shef.ac.uk/ssd/ddss)

If you have any query, please do not hesitate to contact Leo Care lcare@sheffield.ac.uk at SSoA.
School Events & News

WORKSHOPS

Studio 5 and studio 7 in association with PAUD (Participation in Architecture and Urbanism) would like to invite you to TAKING MATTERS INTO YOUR OWN HANDS, a panel discussion exploring the role of the Artist/Architect in enabling local people to become co-producers of their own future.

Date: Tuesday 23rd April  Time: 12.00-14.00  Venue: Room 16.03
Panel Members: Jeanne van Heeswijk (jeanneworks.net), Prof. Doina Petrescu (aaa / SSSoA), Jonathan Orlek (chair / studio 7), Nick Hunter (studio 7), Special Guest (studio 5)
* Please feel free to bring your lunch to the event... Nothing too noisy though.

SUAS PRESENTS... INFORMING ARCHITECTURE  This semester, the SUAS lecture series looks within the architectural profession as well as beyond to other disciplines, with guest speakers including geographers, artists, developers, engineers as well as architects. The aim of informing a collaborative approach to and mapping of a wider picture of current issues and practices with the urban environment. The final lectures of this series are:

23/04 (Tuesday)  – Jeanne van Heeswijk
25/04 – Jonathan Hines, Architype
02/05 – Martin Stockley, Stockley Associates
09/05 – Paul Chatterton, LILAC

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE, EAST-WEST SEMINARS. The final seminars of this series will be held on Thursday 2nd May from 9.30 to 1.00 in room 16.03. The seminar is entitled MODERN AND MODERNIZING. This session will return to the question of what it means to be modern, and how various kinds of modernisation took place: political, technological and representative, as well as stylistic.

Some volunteers from MAUD will be helping with the upcoming INSIDE THE TRIANGLE festival, 11am to 3pm, Sunday 19th May. Various activities will take place in various locations within the John Street Triangle Conservation Area (Family Portraits, T-shirt Printing, finger painting, live music, engraving, knife making, forging tools, workshop on guerrilla gardening, screening of film shorts, ‘cycles in motion’ and so on). If anyone else would like to volunteer and get involved in the day, please contact Julia Udall; j.udall@sheffield.ac.uk

TONGJI STUDENT RECEPTION AND CHINESE ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION  Friday 19th April 1-2 pm, room 13.10. A delegation of three students from Tongji University are visiting Sheffield from 15-19 April as part of a week of Tongji-Sheffield activities. They would like to invite you to a Student Reception and Exhibition for students from Landscape, Architecture and Town and Regional Planning.

PORTLAND WORKS SAVED! Through Sheffield’s first Community Share Issue, Portland Works (an Industrial Provident Society for the Benefit of the Community) has now purchased the building and looking into its future use. Supported by and developed in the context of a Knowledge Transfer project funded by the University of Sheffield: Re-Imagining Portland Works: Sustainable Futures for Sheffield Industrial Heritage. Led by Cristina Cerulli and with Julia Udall as lead researcher, the project facilitated and supported the exploration of sustainable futures for Portland Works as well as their implementation.

The 2ND INFORMAL MEETING FOR PHD STUDENTS and interested supervisors took place on Tuesday, 19th March, organised by Tatjana Schneider; it was well attended and enjoyed. The next event in this series will take place on Tuesday 21st May, 10:00–12:00, in room 14:12.

Research Cluster Events

PROCURE, PRODUCE, PERFORM: An International Conference on Affordable, Sustainable Housing took place on Monday 7th January 2013 in the School of Architecture at the University of Sheffield, UK. This conference offered the opportunity for architects, planners, engineers, housing providers, researchers and students to explore innovative pathways to sustainable affordable
housing with researchers from the Sheffield School of Architecture and special guest: Associate Professor John Quale, Director of the Graduate Architecture Program at the University of Virginia and founder of the innovative ecoMOD Project (http://ecomod.virginia.edu/) See: www.sustainablehousing.group.shef.ac.uk

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**Graduate School, Faculty & University Events**

A reminder that in March the University launched the POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY 2013 (PRES) to all postgraduate research students. PRES is the only national survey of postgraduate research students’ experience of learning and teaching. The results give us rich information on our students’ experience, and allow us to make comparisons both internally and nationally, so as to make changes that better meet student needs in future. The survey is open until 16th May 2013: Please complete it at: http://www.shef.ac.uk/ris/pgr/pres

The next SOCIAL SCIENCE FACULTY GRADUATE STUDENT FORUM EVENT will take place in ICOSS on Tuesday 14th May 2013 16:00–18:00. Please go along and get involved, meet other graduate students working in the Faculty, share tips and tricks and get some extra moral support!

**FACULTY NEWSLETTER:**

Want more news? The following link will take you to the Faculty Newsletter: http://theuniversityofsheffield.com/17GR-1BNH0-4BBECVBA3/cr.aspx

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**Funding Opportunities**

**RIBA FUNDING AND AWARDS** The RIBA has just announced its next round of annual awards, including the RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship (DEADLINE 26 April – £6,000 to one student to conduct international research on topics and in locations of his/her choosing); the RIBA Boyd Auger Scholarship (DEADLINE 3 JUNE – £5,000 to support one student or graduate who wishes to undergo a travel period of imaginative and original research). The RIBA LKE Ozolins Studentship (DEADLINE 3 JUNE – Annual studentship worth £16,000 outside London or £18,000 in London to a student who wishes to pursue, continue, or complete a higher degree in research (PhD/MA/MPhil or MRes) to a maximum of 3 years). Students in UK schools can also apply throughout the year to the RIBA Education Fund and for the RIBA Walter Parker Bursaries, to obtain financial support during their studies or practical experience. Details of all these available on the following webpages: http://www.architecture.com/EducationAndCareers/PrizesScholarshipsandBursaries/UndergraduateandGraduateFunding.aspx

**LEARNED SOCIETY FUND** will support PhD students who give papers at high profile research events and conferences in UK and abroad to a maximum of £250. Forms must be completed in full and returned to Stephen Walker for consideration by the PG committee (24th April, 15th May, 26th June). Please note that the School of Architecture has a restricted fund available and not all applications for support will be successful. Applications must be approved before you travel.

The deadline is approaching for the Faculty of Social Sciences RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME; this is designed to provide financial support for study visits, research costs and fieldwork expenses to PhD students who are self-funded. The Faculty is particular keen to support students who are studying part-time. Applications must be submitted by 30th April. Guidance and forms can be downloaded at http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/social-sciences-dtc/news/research-support-scheme

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Stephen Walker, Graduate School Director, April 2013.