

Dean's Roundup

Friday, 27 June, 2014

Roundup: *Ceiling function*, the mathematical operation of rounding a number up to the next higher integer.

Roundup: a term in American English referring to the process of gathering animals into an area, known as a "Muster" in Australia.

Rounding up: when a helmsman cannot control a boat and it heads into the wind

Roundup: the plan for an invasion of northern France by Allied forces during World War II (Wikipedia)

Dean's Roundup: part blog, part bulletin; part honour roll, part curatorial [cu'ra-to'

ri-al (ky'ō-rē-tōr'ē-əl, -tōr'-) n. nounised by the Dean from curator + editorial]

Dear all,

As people start to drift away for research and vacation trips, I thought I would make this DRUP into an update, with items of interest currently being worked on or coming up.

- I'm advising a consultant who is putting together a HK Grand Challenge scheme with a focus on green towers. An annual international competition would invite multi-discipline teams, including professionals and students, to come up with innovative concepts and designs for towers, with a 1M HKD prize.
- The Faculty Office is starting the process of negotiating a new lease for the Shanghai Study Centre. This is the next step in moving ahead with the proposed new business plan.
- A review of the Community Planning Workshop is currently underway. There seems to be a will to keep this programme but also to reorganize it onto a more sustainable footing.
- A review of Faculty finance is also underway. The approach Cordelia and I are adopting is to tackle the major issues one at a time. Clearing the SSC financial black hole was the first issue. Now that's done, I aim to have solved DUPAD's black hole within the next two weeks. CCC financing is sorted, with a decision from the Provost to allow us to draw down budget @ 0.4M HKD/CCC without having to aggregate across 4 CCCs to create professorial positions if that doesn't work for us. Shirley has asked heads to confirm their CCC spending plans and we shall then test the new system. Next up is for me to sort out a Faculty Office budget for next year, freed from SSC expenditure. The only regular income to the Faculty beyond UGC-HR moneys is the 16% top-slice that comes from Departmental budgets. Once I know how much we can expect next year, I will be consulting on how this should best be spent in a way that adds value to the front-line work of the departments. This may include matched funding for design-research publications, conferences, seed money, etc. I'll let you know. Then will come the tricky one: One-line budget allocation. For the past few years the allocation formula has reflected special arrangements put in place at various points of faculty reorganization. It needs to be rationalized to something that is fair, sustainable and efficient in the sense that it allows everyone to do the job that they are expected to do. This will inevitably involve some redistribution (of recurrent income not accumulated funds). I will be looking at the desirability and feasibility of an 'R' component (rewarding research), and I acknowledge that this is particularly controversial in a mixed design/arts-science Faculty. At the very least, I shall look into ways of incentivizing more publication of research output.
- We are working on a brief for the new Knowles Architectural Gallery, having secured a generous funding source and an equally generous commitment of land from the University.

- I am talking to UCL about a 4 year, double degree self-funded urban science doctoral programme, with the first year in London completing the new MSc Urban Science from UCL Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis, followed by three years doing a HKU PhD, with continuing specialist supervision from UCL in the second year. This may be a model for other such arrangements.
- Division of Landscape Architecture and Department of Urban Planning and Design colleagues are collaborating with Cardiff University this summer on a research project investigating the relationship between green space configuration and walking behavior in London, using the London Travel Demand Survey. I hope that this will be the first of many cross-department research projects. The objective is to do sufficient analysis to submit 4 jointly authored papers to grade A urban planning, landscape and transport journals by December. I am looking forward to joining the team as it visits a sample of each of London's main green space types.
- Four Yangon studios/study visits have been completed this academic year, with the next planned for the Autumn semester and then more in 2015. Our staff and students seem to have been well received and next month we welcome more teachers from Yangon on visits to HKU, making this a truly two-way venture.
- Knowles-building renovation plans are now underway, with the first construction works planned for January 2015 (floors 7 and 8). Floor 7 will be the lab floor, with Fab Lab, Cad Lab, ACP Lab and the new i-Lab.
- We should hear about GRF applications any day now. I am hoping for 8 successes (4 last year).

Next week: how interactive virtual outdoor space could help sustain higher density living (reflections on 2013/14 MArch thesis public review)

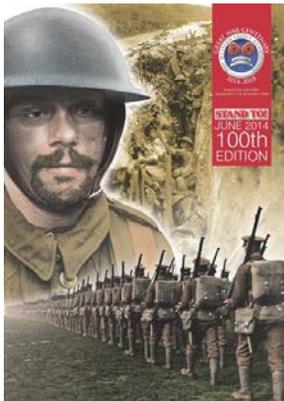
Thank you all for your help in taking the Faculty forward in these and other ways. I am impressed by the wealth of collegiality. And thanks and congratulations to those mentioned below.

Chris

Architectural Conservation Programmes

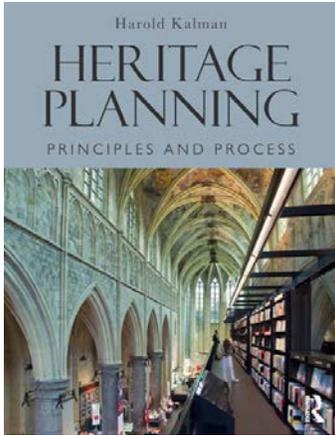
1. Dr. Hoyin Lee (Director, ACP programmes)
 - organised the “Public Lecture Series – The French Connections: Archives, Architecture & Heritage in Hong Kong.” This lecture series, jointly organised with the French Consulate General in Hong Kong and Macau and the NGO Arts in Heritage Research, is part of the *Le French May 2014* arts festival held from May to June. There are three lectures in this series, held on 14, 21 and 28 June, and presented by Stacy Belcher Gould (HKU Archivist), Jason Carlow and Christian Lange (HKU Assistant Professors in Architecture), and Hoyin Lee (HKU Associate Professor in Architectural Conservation). Website: <http://www.consulfrance-hongkong.org/Lecture-From-Paris-to-Hong-Kong>.
 - invited to give a lecture, entitled “Integrating Old and New: Innovative Design for Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Buildings,” organized by the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS), held at the HKIS Surveyors Learning Centre, 6 June 2014. See: http://www.hkis.org.hk/en/professional_cpd2.php?id=3203. (Attended by about 100 surveyors)
 - published a journal article, entitled “Bare Hands, Steel Tracks: The Chinese Labour Corps in the Service of British Tanks during the Great War,” jointly authored with British writer and journalist John Crampton, in the 100th edition (June 2014) of *Stand To!*, journal of the UK-based Western Front Association (<http://www.westernfrontassociation.com/>).

This 100th edition is the special commemorative issue for the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I.



2. Dr. Hal Kalman (ACP Honorary Professor)

- Ready for publication: an academic book, entitled “*Heritage Planning: Principles and Process*” (Taylor and Francis, 2014). The book is ready for pre-order as of June 2014, while the official book launch is scheduled on 8 August 2014. The book is expected to be an important reference for students and practitioners of heritage conservation. See: <http://www.taylorandfrancis.com/books/details/9781138017924/>.



3. Mr. Lawrence Mak, Ms. May Ho and Mr. Edward Leung (ACP graduates)

- Three MSc(Conservation) graduates of ACP are credited for the double-award-winning conservation project “‘Art Community’: Revitalisation Project at Mallory Street / Burrows Street, Wan Chai.” Announced on 10 June 2014, the project won two awards at the HKIA Annual Awards 2013: *HKIA Medal of the Year of Hong Kong* and *Special Architectural Award – Heritage & Adaptive Reuse*. Mr. Lawrence Mak (2004 graduate) was the conceptual designer and project manager (representing the client, the Urban Renewal Authority); Ms. May Ho (2006 graduate) was the conservation architect and heritage consultant (representing the conservation consultant, Centre for Architectural Heritage Research (CAHR) at The Chinese University of Hong Kong); and Mr. Edward Leung (2004 graduate) was the project design director (representing the design consultant, Aedas).

Department of Architecture

1. David Erdman

- his de Ricou tower, designed with his firm davidclovers, was among three finalist projects selected for the first SCMP Architecture and Design Awards in the intensely competitive residential category for Best Residential Building in Hong Kong

2. Dr. B S Jia

- co-authored with Jiang Yingying the following article:

Industrialization and Customization in the Housing Industry of Japan -- A Study on Sekisui and Toyota (in Chinese with English abstract), Architectural Journal - Academic Issue, Vol .11 (no. 1), 2014: Beijing, China. p. 120 - 125 (ISSN 0529-1399)

3. Ms. Tris Kee

- has an article, single authored, accepted for publication in Journal of Design and Built Environment.

Volume 14 (1) in June, 2014 issue

Title: Adaptive Reuse of Industrial Buildings for Affordable Housing in Hong Kong

Author: Kee Tris

Manuscript Number: MS #13012014/03

4. Stephen Lau

- his Architecture PhD Final Year student Miss Ilsa LIN Ping Ying has won a three months resident scholarship to study at the Faculty of Architecture and Regional Planning, TU Vienna, Austria, on the topic of Microclimate and Urban Morphology (host: Professor Richard Stiles).

Eurasia-Pacific Uninet is the largest sovereign university network of its kind within Europe. The network was founded in the year 2000 and has been strongly supported by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science and Research (BMWF) and the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research (OeAD-GmbH). According to its annual report of 2011, there are 23 awardees of PhD scholarships from China, in which 4 are from Hong Kong.

Ilsa is the sixth PhD student from Stephen Lau's group to win a competitive prestigious scholarship to study at overseas institutions: so far, they have won two scholarships from the Netherlands, one from Germany, one from Australia, and one from Japan.

- was invited to a research meeting hosted and sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation at Bellagio, Italy as editorial committee member for three urban themed books to be published under the Urban Knowledge Network Asia Project, funded by the European Union. 19 researchers from India, China and Europe attended the meeting.

In Paris, he visited the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Malaquais Paris, hosted by Nasrine Seraji and Sean Attali.

- Stephen and his PhD candidates: Fei XUE (Year 3) and Man YE (Year 1) was hosted by Yves Cabannes Chair of Development Planning Unit of the Bartlett School of Architecture & Planning for the month of May as visiting researchers to work on sustainable city and greenery, gardens. Altogether 15 gardens were surveyed and measurements made. Close to 70 interviews were collected.

Xue was invited to give a 60 minutes presentation/discussion on her PhD work for an DPU audience of staff and PhDs.

The team went on to visit the Building Research Establishment at Watford and held a one day session with the BRE China Research Team on a building use and performance research study, a part of the Sino-UK Innovation Park Programme (a ministerial level JV between the two governments).

Next, the team was hosted by the Department of Land Economics at Cambridge for a three days stay for an exchange on urban climate policy and sustainable city issues. A half day exchange was arranged for 3 PhDs from Cambridge and 2 HKU PhDs; interestingly, all of whom are recruited from Tsinghua, Beijing U and Tongji.

- visited the School of Architecture at Cardiff and held discussion with its low carbon research group led by Phil Jones; while PhD candidate Ye Man paid a visit to the Cardiff BIM research team.
- delivered 3 talks at the DPU, the Bartlett MSc EDE group and Cambridge on three themes - "challenges for Asia's green campus", "urban revitalization by design, regenerative policies and strategies"; and "critical review of the three pillars of sustainability in the context of politics, economics, sustainable development, lifestyle change drivers, and sustainable design".

At the Bartlett, he was invited to a M.Arch. 1 and 2 final review of Unit 18: Generational Phantoms: Architecture as a social space informed by cultural narratives (Nannette and Ricardo de Ostos Studio). He has also held meeting with Bob Sheil, the Bartlett Director. Stephen was an alumni of the Bartlett MScEDE.

MSc director Dr. Ben Croxford shall deliver a lecture on low energy design challenges at HKU in the PM of 30 June.

Department of Real Estate and Construction

1. Professor Steve Rowlinson

- had attended and presented to the PACE Advisory Board of Penn State University at the Navy Yard Hub (consortium for building energy innovation) in Philadelphia, the USA in early June 2014.

2. Professor Steve Rowlinson, Dr Koh Tas Yong and Dr John Shen

- have been invited by the MTRC to be the working group members to develop an enhanced version of the Green Card Course (i.e. the "Construction Industry Safety Training Course") for the Labour Department of the HKSAR. The group is commissioned in June 2014 and the study is expected to last for the next several months.

Department of Urban Planning and Design

1. Professor Anthony Yeh

- presented an invited paper on “Spatial Distribution of Population and Employment of New Towns” in Plenary Session 4: Population and Spatial Distribution in the *9th Symposium on Shanghai Development in the 21st Century - Population and Future Development of Mega Cities* organized by the Shanghai Overseas Returned Scholars Association that was held in Shanghai from 5-6 June 2014. Paper presenters in the same session were Professor Peter Rowe, Raymond Garbe Professor and Former Dean, the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University, and Professor WU Jiang, Vice-President of Tongji University. He also visited the Department of Urban Planning of Tongji University where he met with Professor TANG Zhilai, Head of the Department.
- attended the *Annual Meeting of the Chinese Academy of Sciences* in Beijing from 9 to 12 June 2014. He has made use of his visit in Beijing to meet with the new Director, Dr. LIU Zhi, of the Peking University-Lincoln Institute Center for Urban Development and Land Policy, Mr. LI Xiaojiang, Director of Chinese Academy of Urban Planning and Design, and Mr. SHI Nan, Secretary General of Chinese Urban Planning Society to mutually update the research and research related activities of the Department with their institutes.
- attended the *International Conference on Asia GIS 2014* jointly organized by the Asia GIS Association, Ministry of Science and Technology, Thailand, and Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), Thailand, from 16 – 17 June 2014 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. He chaired the A2 Session on Geo-Big Data Management and Mining in the afternoon of 16 June and presented a paper on “Hierarchical Polygonization Method in Automatic GIS-T Information Generation and Updating from Road Marking Database” with Mr. Teng Zhong and Dr. Yang Yue. He also attended the Executive Committee Meeting of the Asian GIS Association in the afternoon of 16 June and the General Assembly and Council Meeting of the Association after the Closing Ceremony of the Conference in the afternoon of 17 June. He was elected President of the Association for 2014 – 2016.



2. Professor Bo Sin Tang

- was invited as a discussion panelist in the *Public Forum on Sustainable Consideration of Food Planning Policy with Urban Renewal* organized by the Young Planners Group of the Hong Kong Institute of Planners in the City Gallery on 21 June 2014. Other panelists included HKIP President Mr. Raymond Lee, Legislative Councillor Hon. Tony Tse, Dr. Cynthia Yuen from Renmin University of China and Mr. Osbert Lam the Founder of City Farm.

3. Professor Bo Sin Tang, Dr. Cecilia Chu, Ms. Christina Lo and a multidisciplinary student team from DUPAD

- participated in the Macau Tourism Planning Workshop on June 4 to June 10, organized by the Institute of Tourism Studies (IFT), Macau. The students are Li Sui Fung (Charvis), Han Ziao (Zoey), Loreen Chui, Cheng Ka Yan (Aileen) and Chen Ziyi (Tea) and they are from the various programs in DUPAD including MUP, MUD and BA in Urban Studies. The purpose of the Workshop was to develop a tourism plan for the Mong Ha area in Macau. The four participating teams (ie IFT, Macau, University of St Joseph (Macau), Jiangnan University and DUPAD, HKU) presented their work on 10 June to a panel comprising representatives from the Macau Tourism Commission, Macau Government Tourist Office, Macau Urban Planning Institute and members of the Macau Town Planning Board. The work will be compiled into a report for submission to the Macau Government for consideration in formulating tourism and leisure plans for Macau.



4. Dr. Roger Chan

- was appointed as resident tutor and contributed to the University of Vancouver Global seminar on "Remembering the City's History: Vancouver, Malaysia and Hong Kong in Comparative Context." He gave a lecture-cum-field trip on the cultural and spatial transformation of Sheung Wan on 13 June 2014 and granted an interview on the topic "Consumerism and Local Identity under 'One country, Two systems.'" on 17 June 2014.

5. Dr. Jianxiang Huang

- published a paper with following details:

Huang, J., Cedeño-Laurent, J. G., & Spengler, J. D. (2014). A simulation-based method for predicting mean radiant temperature in dense urban areas. *Building and Environment*, 80, 84-95.

6. Dr. Mandy Lau

- presented a paper entitled "Opposition to Public Housing in Hong Kong: Why?" at the *City Futures III Conference* (jointly organized by the European Urban Research Association and Urban Affairs Association), in Paris, France, from 18 – 20 June 2014.

7. Ms. Jie Li (current PhD student)

- attended the *International Conference on City Futures III - Cities as Strategic Places and Players in a Globalized World* in Paris held from 18 – 20 June 2014 and gave a presentation titled "From Utopian Concept Plan to Mega-Project-Based Planning: The Changing Planning Strategies in Lingang New Town Under Local State Entrepreneurialism" co-author with Prof. Rebecca Chiu.

8. Dr. Weifeng Li

- attended the *8th International Association for China Planning (IACP) Conference* organized by South China University of Technology (SCUT) in Guangzhou from 19 to 22 June 2014 as the Vice Chairman of the Conference Organizing Committee.

9. Dean Webster

- has been nominated by HKU Deans to be a member of the University Research Committee under the category of "Up to six teachers appointed by the Senate for two years at a time"
- gave a keynote speech on "Configuring Healthy Cities" at a plenary session of the High Level Forum: Fostering International Geospatial Health Research Collaborations: Challenges and Opportunities, held at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, on 16 June 2014. He shared the stage with Dr. David Berrigan, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, USA
- was invited as a discussion panelist and a Deans' Forum speaker at the *8th International Association for China Planning (IACP) Conference*, organized by South China University of Technology (SCUT) in Guangzhou from 19 to 22 June 2014.
- featured in an interview at the SCMP Post Magazine on 22 June 2014:

Megacities of Asia Part II: Perils of the concrete jungle

<http://www.scmp.com/magazines/post-magazine/article/1536089/perils-concrete-jungle>