

Dean's Roundup

Friday, 4 April, 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'ōō'r'ē-tōr'ē-əl, -tōr'-)] n. nounised by the Dean from curator + editorial]

Dear all,

We have a splendid line-up in the honour roll this week. Well done all for a collective demonstration of the faculty's ongoing prowess at publishing, grant-getting and awards. Although noone really likes so called 'bean-counting', each of these three activities are marks of competitive achievement. With apologies for those inclined to be predisposed against the c-word, competition if structured well, induces people to invest their own resources in an efficient way into collective and individual endeavors of teaching, generating new knowledge and making it useful to others. Competition is also an efficient (but not failsafe) way of sifting knowledge by quality of argument and data and by thoroughness of research methodology (refereed journals do this) and of sifting it by usefulness (knowledge exchange activities do this). So keep applying for awards, applying for grants and writing articles and books for as wide an audience as possible. All these activities hone our individual skills and have a tendency to increase our value to students and society and to enhance the collective endeavors of the Departments, Faculty and HKU.

Stephen Lau, Bo Tang and I spent yesterday afternoon with the China Academy of Urban Planning and Design (CAUPD), opening a new HKU Faculty of Architecture Liaison Office (soon to be HKUrban lab – CAUPD Liaison Office) in CAUPD's Shenzhen HQ. This is an important milestone in our long established relationship with China's premier design institute, with which DUPAD and the Department of Architecture have good links. I have been friends with CAUPD since the 1980s and am delighted to have formalized this relationship from my new base in HK.

One of the requests coming to us from CAUPD's President Li is to help him with a study of how urban planning is organized in the greater Chinese region including HK, Singapore, Taiwan and the Mainland. I discussed this with Li last year when we were in Tongji together and it is clearly an important personal project for him – and a significant one that could help Mainland China navigate a change of course to planning for 'Phase 2 urbanisation'. Phase 1 is the stage of urbanization during which surplus labour in the economy is moving from the countryside to the city. Phase 2 is the more mature urban development and growth that happens when most surplus rural labour has already been absorbed and the agricultural sector is also modernized. In the big metropolitan regions of China, cities are becoming Phase 2 urbanisation cities, no longer able to grow through massive labour migration. They can no longer expand. A different kind of urban planning is required in this kind of city. Over the next 10-20 years, more and more cities in China will

stop expanding into the countryside as the urban and rural economies transform and building land runs out. A new kind of urban planning will be needed: on the one hand, one that better integrates cities with their hinterlands and on the other, urban planning that is closer to urban management and public administration than to urban design and architecture. Or better, something that mixes policy and design (since parts of all cities will always need redesigning as they evolve). Another way of looking at it is that China will see a shift from planning by design-and-build to planning by law-and-governance. If we are to learn from the West, the challenge will be to work out how to keep urban design as a central feature of rule-of-law-based urban governance. There is a tendency in mature market economies for built-environmental design to shift in scale down to the building level. Moving up from the building scale to add value to common property (the urban design scale) by better design is probably more difficult as an institutional evolutionary step than moving down from the city scale (where China is now). This is one reason why this is such a crucial time for Chinese urban planning and design.

The research question is: how have HK, SPRE, TWN and Mainland China handled this progression? Or less ambitiously perhaps, what do the urban planning approaches look like in these territories that are related by Chinese languages and cultures? What can be learned from the evolution of their respective institutions governing land, planning, design, construction and city management?

We have agreed to do some thinking to help frame this research for CAUPD with a view to defining an ambitious but viable project. CAUPD has some seed resources to help with this and various funding alternatives have been discussed for the project itself: China NSF, MoC as well as CAUPD. I intend to convene a FoA internal meeting in May for those interested in working with CAUPD on this. Please let me know at this stage if you think you are interested.

Congratulations and thanks to all those mentioned below for their contributions to the Faculty's research and engagement agenda.

Chris

Faculty of Architecture

1. UKNA Exchange Scheme

Comprising over 200 researchers from 13 institutes in Europe, China, India and the United States, the Urban Knowledge Network Asia (UKNA) represents the largest academic international network on Asian cities. The UKNA is being funded by a grant awarded by the Marie Curie Actions 'International Research Staff Exchange Scheme' (IRSES), which is part of the European Union's Seventh Framework Program. The project runs from April 2012 until April 2016. The UKNA objective is to nurture contextualized and policy-relevant knowledge on Asian cities. This will be achieved via research staff exchanges and targeted case study based research, focusing on three key areas: heritage, housing and the environment.

The Faculty of Architecture, HKU, serves as one of the host institutes for UKNA researchers. Stephen Lau has been invited by the UKNA Steering Team to be the HKU Coordinator for the UKNA Project. Lau is assisted by RGC-HKU PhD Fellows (Architecture): Christine Jingjing Zhang Final year, and Xiaonuan Sun Third year, as the Contact Person. Up till now, the HKU team has hosted/attended four Roundtables - 2012 Hong Kong, 2012 Delft, 2013 Singapore, 2014 Macau), and hosted many European researchers.

The following are the bio-data of research visitors from the Netherlands, Germany, France and Portugal. Colleagues and students are invited to interact and collaborate with these overseas researchers where appropriate (Temporary office for UKNA visitors: KB 209).

Josefine Orum Fokdal, Berlin University of Technology, She recently obtained her PhD Degree.

Research Topic: Re- production of urban social space in china: the case of Shenzhen

Helen Njote, PhD Candidate at the École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris (EHESS);

Research Topic: Re-investigating 18th c. Javanese Cities' Cosmicity: the Cases of Surakarta and Yogyakarta in Central Java (Indonesia)

Dr. Olivia Bina, Research Fellow, Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon,

Research Topic: Scenarios for Chinese cities in 2050

Dr Stephen Read, Associate Professor, TU Delft.

Research Topic: History matters for development: the futures of regional form and governance

2. The following members of the Faculty received the awards for Excellence in Teaching, Research and KE 2013 at the prize presentation ceremony on Wednesday, 26 March, at 5pm in Loke Yew Hall (more photos are available at <http://www4.hku.hk/award/ceremony/about/photo-gallery/category/30-2013>):

Outstanding Teaching Award 傑出教學獎 (Individual)

Dr Cole ROSKAM, Department of Architecture 建築學系 羅坤博士

Ms Dorothy TANG Shun Wai, Department of Architecture 建築學系 鄧信惠女士

Faculty of Architecture Teaching Award 建築學院教學獎

Professor Rebecca CHIU Lai Har, Department of Urban Planning and Design 城市規劃及設計系 趙麗霞教授

Dr NG Fung Fai, Department of Real Estate and Construction 房地產及建設系 吳蓬輝博士

Research Output Prizes 最佳研究著作獎

Shijia Village House Prototype: 'House for All Seasons' By Mr John LIN Chun Han 林君翰先生*

Project duration: April 2009-March 2012

Knowledge Exchange Awards 知識交流獎

Mr. Jason Forbes CARLOW, ArtAlive@Park 2010 and ArtAlive@Park 2012'



3. Ms. Tris Kee

- CPW has received a \$ 400K grant from MTRC for public engagement schemes associated with the West Island Line construction. The grant will go towards running a series of students' urban workshops, student ambassador programmes, urban studies and exhibitions related to the Kennedy Town - Pok Fu Lam communities.

Architectural Conservation Programme

1. Dr. Hoyin Lee

- co-organised and moderated the final Session 4 of the *Master Class Distinguished Lecture Series: Master Builders on Materials and Techniques of Conservation Projects in Mainland China and Hong Kong* (大師級傑出講座系列: 內地與香港 營造大師 論 建築文物保育工程 的材料與技術) on 29 March 2014. Session 4 of this four-session lecture series (consisting of eight lectures), organised by ACP, the Construction Industry Council, the Hong Kong Government and other parties, focuses on the materials and techniques of traditional English landscape and Suzhou garden designs. The objective of this lecture series is to promote the technical expertise of built-heritage conservation among building professionals in Hong Kong and Mainland China. About 1,000 people registered for the event and over 900 attended. The success of this lecture series is reported in the current issue of "活化@Heritage", the newsletter of the Commissioner for Heritage's Office: http://www.heritage.gov.hk/en/doc/Heritage_Newsletter_35.pdf.
- co-organized and facilitated the second lecture of the *Distinguished Public Lecture Series: Four PhDs on Community and Arts/History/Heritage* on 29 March. This lecture series, organized by Arts in Heritage Research (AHR), ACP, HKICON and The Fringe Club, consists of four lectures by distinguished experts in arts, history and heritage of Hong Kong. The second lecture was by Dr Lau Chi-pang, Director of the Hong Kong Local Records Office, Lingnan University, entitled "Community and History: Shangdong Policemen in Hong Kong." URL: <http://ahr.org.hk/en/my-product/distinguished-public-lecture-series-four-phds-on-community-and-arts-history-heritage/>.

Department of Architecture

1. Ms. Tris Kee

- joined Professor Nasrine Seraji's M.Arch field trip to Hangzhou from 26 to 29 March and participated in students' review with Dean Wang Zhu of the China Academy of Art, on ecological village projects in the outskirts of Hangzhou.
- has been awarded a \$ 250K grant from the Architectural Services Department on a research consultancy on universal accessibility in adaptive reused heritage in HK.



2. Olivier Ottevaere

- presented a paper titled: 'House me Tender: Total Precast Cell System for Mass Customized Housing in China' at the Architecture and Civil Engineering conference (<http://www.ace-conference.org/>) in Singapore.
- delivered a keynote lecture ('Making Ways and Ways of Making') and was invited as an external design critic (<http://alice.epfl.ch/>) at the EPFL in Lausanne, Switzerland.

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M3 MARCHÉ CADRAGES

MONDAY 31 MARCH 10H00 - 13H00
FORUM ROLEX LEARNING CENTER
MONDAY 31 MARCH 14H00 - 18H00
TUESDAY 1 APRIL 9H00 - 13H00
FORUM ROLEX LEARNING CENTER & SALLES TP: AAD101, AAD201, AAC201

CRITIQUE INTERMÉDIAIRE

Dieter Dietz, Urs Egg **INVITED GUESTS:**
Diane H. Lewis, architect New York, professor Cooper Union
Olivier Ottevaere, professor HKU, Hong Kong
Daniel Zamarbide, professor HEAD, Geneva

STUDIOS:

ERCKRATH & FORMERY Dieter Erckrath, architect, London Nicola Formery, architect, London	MASSON & MAGNUSSEN Hans-Martin Masson, architect, Stockholm Magnus Magnussen, architect, Stockholm	JESOP & MEYSTRE Richard Jesop, architect, San Francisco Christoph Meystre, architect, San Francisco	CABAY & NIEVEEN Richard Cabay, architect, London Richard Nieveen, architect, London
OTHENIN-GIRARD & DEVABHAKTUNI Nicolas Othenin-Girard, architect, London Rishi Devabhaktuni, architect, London	VAN DER WOUDE & BAUR Alex van der Woude, architect, London Ralph Baur, architect, London	FANTINI & GUAITA Nicola Fantini, architect, London Nicola Guaita, architect, London	PEAKE & SEEWANG Richard Peake, architect, London Richard Seewang, architect, London

MORNING LECTURE
MAKING WAYS & WAYS OF MAKING
MONDAY 31 MARCH 2014, 9H00, FORUM ROLEX LEARNING CENTER

OLIVIER OTTEVAERE

Double(s) - Hong Kong

MAKING WAYS AND WAYS OF MAKING © Olivier Ottevaere professor, The University of Hong Kong

Division of Landscape Architecture

1. Scott Jennings Melbourne

- was interviewed by Monocle 24's radio show The Urbanist, first broadcast on 27 March 2014. The podcast has over one hundred fifty thousand subscribers and can be downloaded here: <http://monocle.com/radio/shows/the-urbanist/128/>

A 123 Affairs
The Urbanist

Freedom: What are the spaces in a city where we feel free to express ourselves and do as we please – and does freedom make a city a better place to live? And what about services: should parks have free wi-fi and is public art preferable to a gallery? We head to Hong Kong, Sydney, Belgrade, Amsterdam and London to find out.

THE URBANIST

RSS Feed

Department of Real Estate and Construction

1. Dr. Wilson Lu

- Published a book chapter “Lu, W.S. (2014). Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in international construction, pp 198-217. In Liu, J.Y. (ed.) *Frontiers and Key Trends in Construction Management Research*. China City Press: Beijing (in Chinese)”.

2. Dr. Daniel Y. F. Lo

- was awarded Hong Kong - Scotland Partners in Post Doctoral Research Fellowship (2013-2014), which is funded jointly by Scottish Government and Hong Kong Research Grants Council. The fellowship is designed to support and encourage development of high quality research cooperation between Scottish and Hong Kong universities. Dr. Lo will start the fellowship in June 2014, working in collaboration with the Business School of The University of Aberdeen.

3. Dr. Isabelle Y.S. Chan

- has been awarded the Doris Zimmern HKU-Cambridge Hughes Hall Fellowships 2014-15. The fellowship is established to foster closer ties between the HKU and Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge, and to foster cultural exchange and contribute to academic excellence. Isabelle will start the fellowship in October 2014, working in collaboration with the Judge Business School, University of Cambridge.

Department of Urban Planning and Design

1. Professor Anthony Yeh

- Prof. Anthony Yeh was invited by the Penn Institute for Urban Research (IUR) of the University of Pennsylvania to be a panellist of the *Public Panel Discussion on The Future of Urbanization: What Can We Learn from Asian Cities?* in their *Penn IUR Tenth Anniversary Research Summit on Sustainable Urbanization: Place Matters* held on 27-28 March 2014. The Panel examined the challenges and opportunities of urban life in Asia and suggest lessons for cities around the globe when at present almost 80 percent of all city dwellers live in Asian cities. The other Panelists include Dr. Stefan Al, Associate Professor, Department of City and Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Abha Joshi-Ghani, Director, Knowledge Exchange and Learning Department, Leadership Learning and Innovation Vice Presidency, The World Bank, and Prof. Bimal Patel, President, CEPT University, India.

2. Professor Rebecca Chiu

- Prof. Rebecca Chiu succeeded in the bid with a panel of international scholars for a partially-funded workshop at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law at Onati (Spain), to be held on 25 and 26 June 2015. The workshop plans to produce two international publications on the theme of "The Precarious Home: Socio-legal Perspectives on the Home in Insecure Times". The workshop is co-convened by the University of York and the University of Canterbury (U.K.)

Shanghai Study Centre

A research based exhibition '**Contingency Plans: or, Living with Unstable Grounds**' was opened on 29 March 2014 at HKU/Shanghai Study Centre.

Contingency Plans: or, Living with Unstable Grounds considers how the unexpected forces of the earth shape landscapes and ourselves. This exhibition draws on understudied cases from overlooked places. Through 19 case studies assembled by over 20 contributors, and exhibiting more than 200 objects, our long held assumptions about nature and culture are overturned. Urgent new concepts are created that navigate the complex entanglements between ourselves and the instabilities of the ground.

This exhibition is curated by **Adam Bobbette** (HKU, Department of Landscape Architecture) and **Daan Roggeveen** (HKU/Shanghai Study Centre).

The show has contributions from **Adam Bobbette** (Landscape Architecture), **Andrew Toland** (Landscape Architecture), **Joshua Bolchover** (HKU, Architecture), **Seth Denizen** (Landscape Architecture), **Zhang Yucong** (Landscape Architecture)

