

INTERSECTION

MAY ISSUE

3/2019-2020
PPK469/01/2017(034673)



Visitor Centre & Customer Service Centre at the Piasau Nature Reserve by Atelier Timur

Photo by: Louis Velda Anak-Dominic Salon (Piasau Nature Reserve Park Warden)

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As we emerge from more than 2 months of the Movement Control Order ("MCO") and the Conditional MCO ("CMCO"), I recall my parents' tales from their youth of curfews during the confrontation days. I never imagined that we would experience anything remotely similar in our lifetime.



Due to the MCO, there have been many changes to our daily lives. As we re-adapt to the 'new norm' – life with COVID19 is inevitable as we forge forward into the future.

We now have the longest tenure on the PAMSC committee in history with the postponement of our March AGM. PAM is re-scheduling to hold the election in June-July with the AGM in August 2020, if all goes to plan. As such, chapters' elections and AGMs will be re-scheduled for July 2020. Announcements will be made in due course. Please stay tuned.

It is unfortunate that our much anticipated Design Festival 2020 and the various events scheduled this year will be postponed. New formats and arrangements are under works to bring these to you in the near future.

I extend my deep appreciation to all of our committee members and staff who have been busy re-arranging and re-adapting PAMSC to suit the new changes caused by COVID19.

On the practice front, currently there seems to be more questions than answers. Adaptation to new ways of working, the challenges of managing projects, the financial concerns and uncertainties will be on everyone's mind. We take solace that this is a global concern and the whole world is working towards a solution. With our family of Sarawakian architects, we look to link arms and work together alongside our governmental counterparts and industry partners to alleviate these concerns and clarify those confusions wherever possible.

It is heartwarming that during times of adversity we witness the coming together of communities. Our members have been busy stepping up to help in various causes - be it assisting with the needy, to designing & producing PPE, or to collaborating with industry partners to build shelters for frontliners.

No doubt we all have also picked up new skills during this period and hopefully we can all come out as better chefs, carpenters, gardeners, parents, teachers, dancers etc.

I would very much like to thank the Intersection team for endeavoring to put together our newsletter during these challenging times. Well done!

Stay Safe, Keep Calm and carry on everyone!

PAMSC would like to wish our fellow members who are celebrating; Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri & Selamat Ari Gawai!

Ar. Ivy Jong
PAMSC Chairman 2019 - 2020

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following new Architects who passed their Part III examinations in September 2019!



Ar. Norman Lu Juen Jye



Ar. Kong Yean Wei



Ar. Goh Tze Hui

NEWLY WEDS



Lau Chee Kiong & Tan Yung Yung



Jonathan Lee Hui Khiong & Sim Kher Jiun

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

I still recall the day our Prime Minister announced that the country was going into a "lockdown" as a response to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. I remember the slight panic I felt as I sent a long message to our staff late that night - trying to organise how we were all going to work from home and whether we should just bring all our computers home. On the last day at our office before the MCO, we cleaned and disinfected every surface we touched and threw out a whole heap of stuff we thought we needed but never used. One thing was for sure, the pandemic proved to be a far more effective incentive for our annual office spring-cleaning. With the whiff of antiseptic in the air, we shut our doors and said our "See you in 2 weeks" to each other. Little did we know it was going to be 2 months instead.



It has been approximately 2 months and 2 weeks since the start of the MCO. The once bustling streets became still and the chitter-chatter in our local coffee shops were silenced. Trips to the supermarket became small pockets of 'joy' as we cautiously lined up 1 metre apart, waiting patiently for our temperatures to be taken and hands sanitised. Our social media feeds became flooded with images of home-baked goodies and we exercised more than we ever did, partly to counter all the eating we were doing. Parents strived to maintain their sanity levels as they became teachers to their children. As we juggled with our personal lives and worked from our homes, we started to see a different world that we never thought we would experience in our lifetime.

Adapting to this new way of life seemed daunting at first, and this highlighted some of the shortfalls in our current way of working. I am sure plenty of us are considering or have already jumped onto the 'cloud' bandwagon, where we can access our work files anytime and share them across our network regardless of our location. There is a real possibility that one day, we may all work remotely and the idea of a physical office space may become redundant. What does this mean for our built environment, for our cities filled with office buildings that may become 'ghost' towns in the near future? These are questions that will no doubt fuel our current and future architects, as we start to design buildings and spaces that cater for a whole new set of requirements.

In this issue of Intersection, it seemed appropriate to take our minds off the current pandemic and touch on the talent in our own backyard. In our regular segment where we feature the works of our local architects, we highlight the **Visitor Centre & Customer Service Centre at the Piasau Nature Reserve by Atelier Timur**; a project that was spurred by one unfortunate event of illegal animal poaching. Remembering **Raphael Scott Ahbeng**, Sarawak's most prolific artist who was known internationally for his surreal paintings, reminds us of the beauty of Sarawak, which remained his single, most enduring subject. Ar. Wee Hui Min shares with us the second instalment of his architectural musings, **The (Incomplete) Tenets of Architecture in the Tropics: Shade**. To add to the reports of the Sub-Committees, Sharon Thien reports on the **Arcasia Sports Fiesta** that was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka earlier this year. Lastly, this issue wouldn't be complete without a summary of the MCO and its impact on our architecture community, entitled **COVID19 and the Movement Control Order**.



Ar. Peggy Wong volunteered to help design and produce PPE for the frontliners together with Jacqueline Fong and the Tanoti team.

For this issue, I would like to thank the editorial team for their patience and guidance throughout this prolonged period, especially Ar. Ivy Jong and Chen Hui Joo.

Last but not least, I would like to wish a Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri and Selamat Gawai Dayak to all those who are celebrating.

Stay safe and sane!

Ar. Tina Lau Kor Ting

PIASAU NATURE RESERVE



DESIGN STATEMENT

Formerly known as the Piasau Residential Enclave for Shell's expatriate staff, the site was handed over by SHELL Berhad back to the Sarawak Government. Petitions from the local community and major non-profit organisations called to have the 88.5 hectares site turned into a reserve dedicated to the conservation of hornbills and other wildlife. It was also intended to become a heritage site and buffer zone against natural disasters.

An unfortunate incident spurred the project - the death of the famed Oriental Pied Hornbill named Faridah, who was killed by poachers. Faridah was the mate of another hornbill called Jimmy and together they were responsible for maintaining a big portion of the Oriental Pied Hornbill population in the area before Faridah's untimely death. In June 2014, the Sarawak Government gazetted the site into a Nature Reserve. It was to be restored to become a forest reserve managed by the Sarawak Forestry Corporation.

Based on the Gensler's Masterplan commissioned by Shell Berhad, the Masterplan for the site consisted of 3 Zones; Zone 1 - Primary Forest Reserve, Zone 2 - Protected but accessible and Zone 3 - Focus of Public Access in One Area. The approach in the masterplan was rooted in preserving conservation and community.

Client:

Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd

Architect:

Atelier Timur Sdn Bhd, led by Ar. Ivy Jong, Ms Elma Belen and Team

C&S Engineer:

PCS Konsultant Sdn Bhd

M&E Engineer:

Perunding CHL Sdn Bhd

Quantity Surveyor:

Kos Bina K.C.T. Sdn Bhd

Land Surveyor:

United Survey Consultants

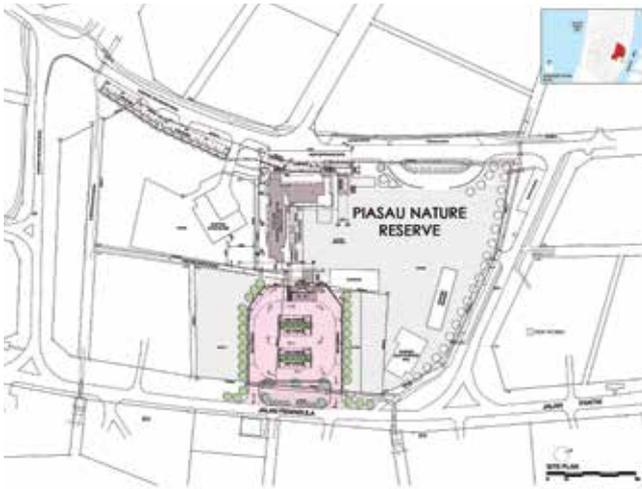
Exhibition Design Specialist:

Impact Design Associates Sdn Bhd in collaboration with the Sarawak Forestry Corporation Interpretation Team, Shell, Petronas & Atelier Timur

Main Contractor:

Technicorp Sdn Bhd





Atelier Timur Sdn Bhd was selected to be involved in Zone 3 of the Gensler's Masterplan for the Piasau Nature Reserve, which was designated as the main public access focus to include facilities to promote education. The site's entire infrastructure, sewerage, electricity and water systems were dismantled after it was gazetted as a Nature Reserve. A significant portion of the project's budget went towards re-establishing these systems.



Working within a tight budget to realise the initial Gensler's Masterplan intention, Atelier Timur re-orientated the existing site plan and created a new access to face the main road (Jalan Peninsula) to improve legibility and prominence. Named the East Gate, this portion houses the main public car park, visitor foyer with the customer service counter and Park-shop.

The existing structure (formerly Tenby International School) was re-adapted and converted to an Interpretation centre, which is the education hub for the complex. It also houses the administrative offices, flexible seminar-conference rooms of various capacities, suraus, public toilets, an F&B outlet and supporting auxiliary spaces.



A new entrance building with a covered circulation & exhibition spine was introduced. The original school entrance was renamed the West Gate, and it became the complex's secondary access and gateway for visitors to the 'Bring Back The Rainforest' programme sites.

The Interpretation Centre is the centre's main education attraction. The exhibition content design was innovative with interactive display to make education fun for school children. This was an unconventional and fruitful collaborative effort between the Sarawak Forestry Corporation & Piasau Nature Reserve Interpretation team, Shell, Petronas, Impact Design Associates and Atelier Timur.



The development of Piasau Nature Reserve is a long-term project and will be executed in phases for the benefit of the local people to become a lasting legacy for Miri.

ASTB overall re-planning will enable other phases of the development to take root in a cohesive manner.

RAPHAEL SCOTT AHBENG (1939-2019)

By Ar. Alan Kor Loong Lau

Visiting Raphael Scott Ahbeng at his Bau house was like visiting a favourite elderly uncle. Walking with the aid of a stick, he greeted me warmly like an old friend, even though we had only ever met once before. He was genuinely delighted to have company, and he guided me through the verdant grounds. "It's a big house, but luckily I'm not the one who has to look after it, for that I have to thank my poor wife," he quipped.

He spread his hands gingerly, showing me his knuckles swollen with arthritis. It was a natural hazard dreaded by all painters, but Raphael bore his affliction with good humour. "Sometimes it's so painful that I can't paint," he said, showing the one hint of sadness during our entire visit.

He opened the door to his studio, a free-standing bungalow where he painted and stored his art. Inside was another world, the universe interpreted by Raphael Scott Ahbeng, in dazzling line and colour. Having seen the painful state of his hands, I'm struck by how prolific he remained in later life, how vast the scale of his art. Paintings of a monumental scale hung and stacked against the walls. There were rivers, forests, valleys, and mountains, brought to life in his trademark exuberant Raphael colours. In his well-known mountains series, the trees streamed freely as rivulets of paint. In another canvas, a forest landscape became as riotous as a street parade, raining streaks in eye-popping shades.

Raphael was, and remains, Sarawak's most famous painter of any style or age. Even a cursory look at his oeuvre will show that his single most enduring subject was Sarawak itself. Raphael was born during the Japanese Occupation, saw a brief return to Brooke rule, cession of Sarawak to Britain, and witnessed the birth of the modern state as part of Malaysia.

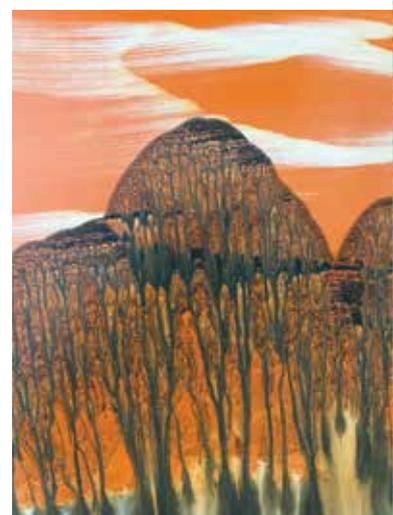
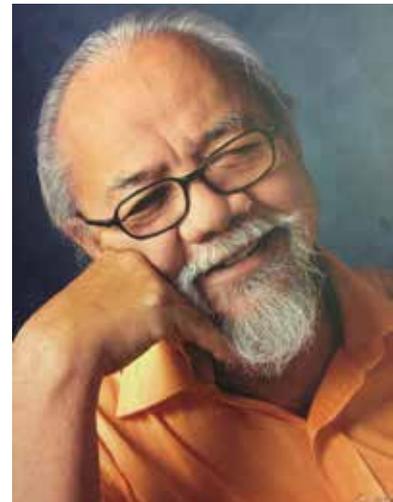
Raphael's came from a large Bidayuh family of 8 children. His father packed him off to school at an early age, where he endured the harsh discipline of an austere mission education. Despite this, a visiting delegation of British Council officials noticed the well-spoken, bright young man, and eventually recommended him for a scholarship to study broadcasting in England.

For a young Bidayuh man who had never even left the country, going to England during the 1960s must have seemed like flying to the moon. Despite the loneliness and sense of alienation, Raphael still opened himself up to the experience, garnering some deep and lasting friendships along the way. The Welsh actor David Prince recalled how in 1965, "Ray" invited him to join him on a cycling tour of Europe, where they ended up being interrogated by Fascist guards in Franco-era Spain on suspicion of being spies.

After his English sojourn, Raphael returned to Sarawak and settled into a career at RTM, where he eventually became head of the English service. Throughout his career as a broadcaster, Raphael continued to pursue his passion in art and painting, which he had done from an early age. As his talent grew, so did the voices encouraging him to pursue painting full time. When the time came to leave broadcasting, he did exactly that, setting up a studio at Rubber Road.

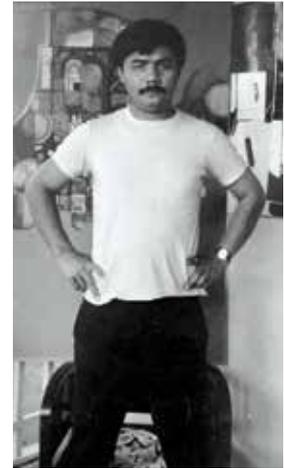
Pursuing a painting career in Sarawak then, as it is now, was a daunting and unpaved path. Even for a man like Raphael, it must have taken real steel of soul. But a slew of early commissions, notably for the Rhiga Royal Resort and the Royal Mulu Resort, gave the impetus he needed. His daughter June recalls her father strapping 150 canvases into a single car, before driving them to Mulu himself. Through sheer talent and hard graft, his career as a sought-after painter of modern canvases took off.

Apart from his painting, Raphael loved to sketch. In contrast to his professional painting, which consisted mostly of landscapes, his pen-and-ink drawings show his acute observation of people. As he grew older, they became more like cartoons, with little snatches of dialogue and witticisms. They depict ordinary people in everyday situations - in queues at the bank, at the market, furiously politicking in coffee shops - showing a deep interest in what people on the streets felt and thought. His daughter June hopes to have them published someday, to show a lesser-known side of the artist.



But for the time being, it's for his vibrant landscapes that we'll best remember Raphael Scott Ahbeng, as well as his deep love of his native land. As his painting career took off, Raphael could have chosen to live and work in the big city, closer to the wheelers and dealers of the art world. Instead, he decided that if people wanted to seek him out, they would have to come to him at Bau. The man himself was inseparable from his homeland.

And so it was fitting that Raphael Scott Ahbeng, Sarawak's most eloquent master of colour and paint, should come home to rest, not far from the place he was born. He will be remembered as a trailblazer, a brilliant artist, and a wise and wonderful human being. We are all the poorer for his loss, but all the richer for his having lived among us.



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THE (INCOMPLETE) TENETS OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE TROPICS: SHADE

By Ar. Wee Hii Min

This is a continuation of 4 articles about **Shade**, **Permeability**, **Thresholds** and **Materiality** in relation to designing buildings in the tropics. In this, the second instalment of the (incomplete) tenets, we are looking at the role the roof plays in the design of a building in the tropics. In an earlier issue, we talked about the threshold of buildings - the zone between the exterior and interior. The roof is an important element in the delineation of this zone; often it is the extension of the roof into a covered terrace or porch that defines the threshold between the heat and (relative) coolness of the shade.

There are entire studies about the different types of roof forms and how they are shaped by different cultures, history and geography. In this short article, we are simply looking at them in relation to our work of designing in the tropics:

1. As a civic element that is shared by the local community,
2. As a climatic element that determines the performance of a building and improves its comfort,
3. and last but not least, as a building element which is often used to express the character of a building.

The roof as a civic element

The most primitive structure is often a roof supported by several posts, or even trees. It is the single most important building element to keep the weather out. The importance of having a shaded space in the tropics is so important that it is able to elevate its' function into a civic one such as the "wakaf." There is a lesson to be learnt for the design of our own civic spaces which are often ceremonial and symbolic. There is no provision for shade, making them rather useless during the day.

Two successful examples of providing shade on a civic scale are Alvaro Siza's *Portugal Pavilion* and Jurgen Mayer's *Metropol Parasol*. They understand and celebrate the importance of shade in the public realm. Closer to home, Design Network Architects' *Masjid Wan Alwi* borrow from the "wakaf" and the "serambi" to elevate the structure of the mosque while extending the prayer halls into the landscape; similar to that of a covered verandah and making it a more comfortable civic space.



Penan Shelter: Even nomadic tribes have the roof as their built form. (Copyright: Andy Rain/Rainsurvival.)



Wakaf: This little raised platform with a pitched roof is both a civic and physical landmark. It is often used to demarcate the public realm in the kampong. (Copyright: Landscape Specialist Malaysia.)



Masjid Wan Alwi by Design Network Architects.



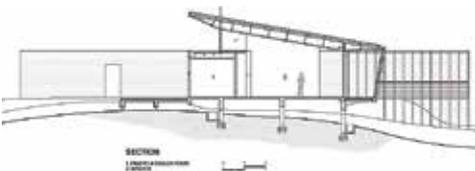
The design of the mosque alludes to the idea of the wakaf as a shared structure as well as a gift to the community. (Masjid Wan Alwi by Design Network Architects.)



The roof eaves are extended lower on the west facing side of this house. (1-tree House by Design Network Architects.)



For the mono-pitch roof to work successfully it has to extend far enough from the face of building. (Rantau Panjang House by SML Architects.)



Section through the Rantau Panjang House by SML Architects.



Centre for Earth by Kere Architect.

The roof as a climatic element

Traditional house builders in the tropics understand the need to shade the occupants and the building itself. The roof eaves shield from the elements and protect the vertical surfaces of the wall, thus prolonging its lifespan. Recent developments with mono-pitch roofs are worrying - the roof fails to shade the building facade on the high side, thus increasing heat gain and deterioration of the building material. For the mono-pitch roof to work successfully, it has to extend far enough from the face of building, or if the building is a single-storey structure. The pitch or slope of the roof plays an important part in the cooling of the house as well as there must be enough pitch to afford a higher ceiling internally. The tall interior space would then promote better air circulation and comfort, which is much easier to achieve with a normal pitched roof compared to a flat (or flattish) mono pitch.

The roof as a physical element

In true Modernist spirit, the building is often expressed as visually distinct elements - the floor slab, the supporting columns, the walls and the roof as clearly demonstrated in the *Barcelona Pavilion*. Interestingly, this idea works well for designing in the tropics - the elevation of the floor slab from the ground plane gives opportunity to improve ventilation and reduce dampness while the separation of the roof from the top of the structure or wall allows a gap which can be used to dispel hot air from the interior. It allows the roof to express itself as a distinct feature of the building.

I am fond of recent examples of this in the works of African architect Francis Kere; a true celebration of the roof without resorting to cultural or historical motifs and forms. The structure is expressed as part of the buildings' aesthetic - often simple and light construction which perhaps reflects the economy and skills of its builders. Closer to home, one may visit Razin Architect's *Suaru Nusa Idaman* to see the same ideas at work.

It would be irresponsible to write an article about roofs without addressing the problem of leaks. I often tell my client that we want to design the roof with care, and build it with even more care and let it do its' work over our heads, channelling rain away from the house.

And with luck, we can forget that the roof exists.



Suaru Nusa Idaman by RAZIN ARCHITECT.

COVID 19 AND THE MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER (MCO)

THE IMPACT ON OUR ARCHITECTURE COMMUNITY

By Ar. Tina Lau Kor Ting

On the 16th March 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister announced the implementation of the Movement Control Order ("MCO"). As the next 2 days unfolded, we entered into the first phase of the MCO on the 18th March 2020. It was only meant to last 2 weeks, however we all saw how countries like China, Hong Kong and Japan went into their 'lockdowns' for more than 2 months. We were bracing ourselves for something similar.

During the MCO, most "non-essential" businesses were ordered to cease operations. At the same time, we were still expected to pay full salaries including rentals, creditors and overheads during this non-productive period. Based on nationwide surveys conducted by PAM and LAM to assess the impact of the MCO on the architecture profession, almost all of the respondents said that the MCO and CMCO had affected their cash flow - more than 50% of practices have been severely impacted and find it difficult to keep up with business expenses. More than half of the respondents informed us that they have to look into restructuring their practices as well as reducing the number of employees to sustain their business operations post-MCO.

With the federal government announcing financial aids such as the Special Relief Fund ("SRF") and the Wage Subsidy Programme ("WSP") to help combat economic burdens by Small Medium Sized Enterprises ("SME") during the MCO, PAMSC did a quick survey amongst members as the majority of local architecture practices are SMEs. At the time of the survey, more than half of the respondents who had applied for the SRF had not received any approvals, whereas 60% of those who applied for the WSP had received their subsidies. The Sarawak Government announced the Bantuan Khas Sarawakku Sayang ("BKSS") initiative to provide zero-interest loans with certain financial institutions, however almost all of our members have not been able to receive their assistance due to delays in approvals by Bank Negara Malaysia.

It is important to note that these findings have not only enabled us to formulate appropriate solutions to help our profession - It has made it clear that we need the help and support of the State Government more than ever in order to overcome these challenges faced by our architecture practices. The COVID-19 pandemic and MCO have highlighted several issues and shortfalls of our current system; some of which can be resolved with the following suggestions:

1. **Ease of Cash Flow** - To direct all State Government agencies and linked companies to promptly expedite all outstanding fee claims in accordance to the respective client-consultant engagement contracts. A maximum of 30 days should be set for the processing and settlement of future professional fee payment claims for all State Government projects.
2. **Ease of Doing Businesses** - The MCO has caused delays in getting approvals from the authorities. Online or E-Submissions for the checking and approval processes

should be implemented in order to simplify and standardise all submission requirements. As these systems are already in place (the eSPA system has been online since 2018 for Development Plan submissions) it can easily be activated in order to improve the efficiency and transparency for all submissions and approvals including those to the Local Authorities.

In the long run, we need to look at ways on how we can restore investors' confidence as well as increase domestic demand as we come out of the MCO. Other than improving the efficiency of obtaining approvals for Development Plans, the Sarawak government should look into the formation of an overall structure with suitable planning strategies to ensure the sustainability of development in Sarawak. A "2-Stage Development Approval" process during the planning stages can help to expedite the process - the first stage should focus only on land matters, boundaries and height controls; the second stage to look into further requirements by Bomba, the Local Authorities and other technical agencies. This will help investors' to have the confidence to invest further once they have obtained their first stage approvals.

In order to help SMEs which make up the majority of architecture practices in Sarawak, the state government and GLC developers could encourage collaboration with smaller firms to provide professional services for large-scale projects, rather than selecting from the same pool of larger, more experienced firms. This will help SMEs to enhance and build their experiences in order to handle more complex projects that will inevitably improve the quality of professional architecture services in the state. Subsidies or grants from the state government to improve IT infrastructure to enable firms to work remotely or encourage the use of Building Information Modelling ("BIM") will help to increase the efficiency in the construction and building industry as well.

On another level, the outbreak has also shown the disparate nature between the different income groups in our local and rural population. Economic woes are felt throughout the country, and this has brought to light the need for our profession to spearhead studies on the design of public & private housing and public health facilities in response to the concern of public health and social well-being of the people in Sarawak.

It is often said that during times of struggle and confusion, we see the true nature of people and their ability to adapt to new surroundings. As we prepare to come out of the MCO and CMCO, we hope that our profession will band together to overcome this challenging time. Once we have reached that crucial milestone, we hope that our architect members will have the capacity to be at the forefront of leading and contributing effectively not only to the construction industry, but to the entire community and nation.

Some of the points highlighted in this article are based on letters written by PAMSC to the State Government during the MCO.



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PAMSC represented by Ar. Stephen Liew & Ar. Chai Si Yong.

Lab for Preparation of Draft "Guideline for Guarded Neighbourhoods"

Date: 9th December 2019 (Monday)
Time: Imperial Hotel, Kuching

PAMSC was invited by the Ministry of Urban Development & Natural Resources (MUDeNR) to attend a lab session to prepare a draft guideline for guarded neighbourhoods in view of the increase of guarded neighbourhood developments in major cities of Sarawak. The following matters were discussed - the application process, the requirements of the residents' consent, guard house location, requirements and design, fencing details, enforcement and delegation of function by SPA to the Local authority.



Courtesy Visit to the Permanent Secretary of Local Government & Housing, Datu Antonio Kahti Galis



2-day Lab on Draft Strata Management (Management & Maintenance) Regulations, 2020

Date: 7th - 8th January 2020
Time: Imperial Hotel, Kuching

In view of the gazette of the Strata Management Ordinance in November 2019, the Ministry of Local Government & Housing (MLGH) conducted a 2-day lab at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching to provide a platform for stakeholders to deliberate and gain feedback on the draft Strata Management (Management & Maintenance) Regulations 2020.

PAMSC was represented by Ar. Chiew Chung Yee, Ar. Law Kim Chui, Ar. Stephen Liew and Ar. Chai Si Yong. The feedbacks and proposed amendments to the draft were presented to MLGH on the 2nd day of the lab for their consideration.

Date: 24th February 2020
Time: MLGH Meeting room

PAMSC made a courtesy visit to the newly appointed Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Local Government & Housing (MLGH), Datu Antonio Kahti Galis at his ministry's office on the 24th February 2020.

Some of the major issues highlighted by Ar. Ivy Jong were the following:

1. Review of the Sarawak Building Ordinance, 1994
2. Joint Technical Consultative Committee Meetings
3. Online soft copy submissions for Building Plan Approval

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DATE	EVENTS & VENUE	CPD	ATTENDANCE
12 Jan	Public Design Lecture 4.1 (Islamic Information Centre)	2	86
7-9 March	GBI Facilitator Course Sarawak (CIDB Convention Centre Sarawak)	3	112
16 March	Educational Talk Series 2019 - Mackintosh & Studio Teaching- Sharing by Alan Hooper (University Malaysia Sarawak)	1	85
22 March	PAMSC Design Festival 2019 – Wind Presentation to Juries (The Waterfront Hotel)	2	60
23 March	PAMSC Design Festival 2019 – Exhibition (The Waterfront Hotel)	2	230
23 March	PAMSC Design Festival 2019 – Design Forum 2019 (The Waterfront Hotel)	4	230
24 March	PAMSC Design Festival 2019 – Site Visits (The Waterfront Hotel)	1	90
13 April	44th Annual General Meeting (PAMSC Centre)	1	38
13 April	Book Talk - The Merdeka Interviews (PAMSC Centre)	2	17
22 June	Seminar on Architects' Practice (SOAP) 2019 (PAMSC Centre)	4	46
15 July	Good Design Week 2019 (Swinburne)	4	3
28 Sep	Smart Building Envelope in SEA Climate with Focus on Passive Design Building (PAMSC Centre)	2	56
5 Oct	PAM CPD - Strata Development Dilemma (PAMSC Centre)	2	64
19 Oct	Factory Visit to Kim Hin Industry Berhad (Kim Hin Industry Berhad)	1	47
26 Oct	Public Design Lecture Location X (former Ting & Ting Supermarket)	2	136
30 Nov	PAM CPD - The Architects Roles & Responsibilities Under The Housing Development Act (ACT118) & Related Regulations (Lot 10 Boutique Hotel)	2	61
TOTAL CPD		35	



UCTS Design Studios Final Presentations

Reported by Ms. Aimi Farhana Ghazali
Lecturer for Architecture Programme, UCTS

Each semester, the Architecture Programme from the University College of Technology Sarawak (UCTS) organises Critique Sessions for the Design Studios in order to provide further exposure for the students as well as to enhance the teaching programme. Various industry and academic professionals are invited to join the Critique Panel in order to share their experiences and views from a real-life perspective.

From the 26th-27th December 2019, 30 students from Design Studio 5 and 25 students from Comprehensive Design Studio were given the opportunity to present their projects to faculty members and invited guest critics. The panel was composed of the following - Ar. Wee Hii Min from Min Wee Architect - Kuching, Mr Tay Tze Yong from PDC Design Group - Kuching, Ar. Ng Chee Wee from IDC Architects - Kuching, Ar. Nasrudin Sharkawi from OUR Architects - Kuala Lumpur and Ar. Embong Mohamad from UTM - Selangor.

The projects focused on designing flexible, multi-level accommodation typologies of not more than 5-storeys in an urban setting. The designs integrated various building components such as structures, materials, services as well as environmental factors such as passive and active design methods. Detailed site planning, designs for formal and informal public spaces with consideration of the sub-basement were incorporated into the overall design schemes.

Design Studio 5

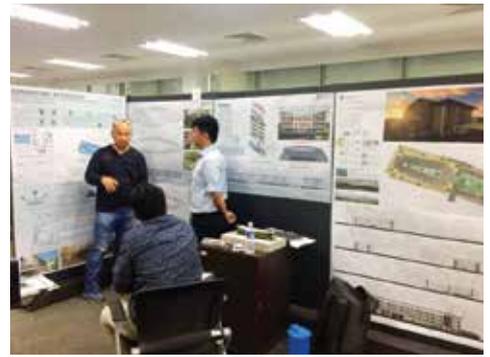
Project : Retirement Centre

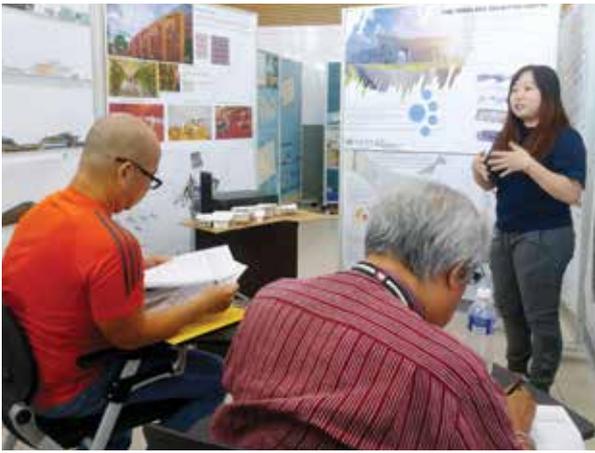
In Design Studio 5, students were given the task to formulate and propose a Retirement Centre located in Sibul. The Retirement Centre needed to be designed specifically for mobile and independent retirees; providing opportunities for retirees to maintain a self-sufficient and independent lifestyle. Students explored various planning and architectural design issues requiring innovative interventions or solutions in contextual studies as well as abiding by the relevant Building By-laws.

Comprehensive Design Studio

Project : Sibul Trade and Exhibition Centre

Students were expected to propose a comprehensive design project for the Sibul Trade and Exhibition Centre. Students were required to respond to issues such as site context, local planning as well as technical building guidelines such as the Building By-laws with regards to the proposed project. This encouraged students to develop their critical thinking in generating creative and innovative design solutions whilst considering their constraints.





UCTS Final Project Assessments

Reported by Ar. Wee Hii Min

In December (26/27) 2019, Tay Tze Yong, Ar. Ng Chee Wee and Ar. Wee Hii Min represented PAMSC in a final review of Semester 5 and 6 studio projects at University Technology College of Technology in Sibiu. They were joined by members of the teaching faculty in a 2-day session involving about 70 students, with projects related to aged care living and trade expo centre. The involvement of architectural practitioners in such student review is in part a LAM requirement as well as a vehicle for universities to engage with local practice.



UNIMAS End of Semester Design Review

Reported by Dona Rose

On the 9th January 2020, the Department of Architecture of the Faculty of Built Environment for UNIMAS invited their Industrial Advisory Panel (IAP) for the End of Semester Design Review for Semester 1, academic session 2019/2020. One of the objectives of the IAP is to monitor the implementation of the academic program curriculum to ensure that the program is relevant with industrial practices and is set at a good standard.

The IAP consists of some local architects – Ar. Mike Boon, Ar. Chai Si Yong, Ar. Kushahrin Sadikin Kushairy, Ar. Mohammad Royzaid Musa, Ar. Nurina Matnor, Ar. Hajjah Noraini Narodden and Ar. Dayang Duriah Abang Mansor. The Design Review is conducted at the end of each academic semester to review design works from 3 cohorts of Bachelor of Science (Hons) Architecture students.



Architectural Study Visit Series: New Sarawak Museum

Reported by Ar. Hajjah Noraini Narodden

Date: 18th January 2020
Time: 9:00am - 1:00pm

As part of the Architectural Study Visit Series 2020, PAMSC members visited the recently completed New Sarawak Museum on the 18th January 2020. Designed by Arkitek KDI, 58 PAMSC members were given a first-hand look and guided tour by Ar. Voon Choon Hin around the new iconic building for Sarawak.

The tour started with a walk from the main entrance towards the new linkway connecting the Old Museum and pedestrian entrance facing the Padang Merdeka. This helped to explain the design approaches taken; from the façade design to the axis of the building relating it to the New DUN Building. The modular diamond-shaped wall cladding on the building's façade represent traditional Sarawak ethnic patterns that reflect different shades of metallic gold under the sunlight.

Upon entering, the building is divided by an atrium space with escalators linking all the floor levels. An abundance of natural light enters the space via glass walls on both ends of the space, and it is noted that the building has achieved a Silver GBI certified rating. Platforms are staggered around the atrium to enable visual linkages from each floor level in to the central space. Exhibition rooms are placed at both sides of the atrium and currently the interior works are underway in preparation for the building's opening next year.

As a young project architect overseeing the project, Ar. Voon admitted that it was a big challenge in leading the team. However, after seeing the completion of the building, he admitted that it was a rare and golden opportunity to be a part of building a prominent structure that will grace the city's skyline in many years to come.

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ARCASIA SPORTS FIESTA 2020

By Sharon Thien Fang Jing

On the 12th February 2020, 10 Malaysians embarked on a journey to Colombo, Sri Lanka for the inaugural ARCASIA Sports Fiesta 2020. I participated in the badminton competition together with other PAM Eagles shuttlers consisting of 4 male and 2 female players. There were a total of 5 teams competing in the event - Malaysia, 2 from Sri Lanka, India and Bangladesh. There were 2 main events in the competition – the team and individual events. After 2 long tiring days of the tournament, PAM Eagles managed to win 4 Gold medals for all of the team and individual events. The respective Champions were:

Team Event

Champion: PAM Eagles (MAS)

Individual Event

Women's Singles

Champion: *Sharon Thien Fang Jing*

Men's Singles

Champion: *Joshua Khong Jian Min*

Men's Doubles

Champion: *Joshua Khong Jian Min & Desmond Lee Kok How*

Silver Winner of Golf: *Ar. Alvin Lim Hai Seah*

After the tournament ended, we toured around Colombo city. We were fortunate to visit some great works by Geoffrey Bawa including his house and office. Being a fresh starter in architecture, I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to represent PAM Malaysia in the Sports Fiesta as well as given the chance to experience different types of architecture around the world. I was fortunate to have the guidance of my senior teammates who patiently explained things that were new to me. We also had the opportunity to attend a dinner at the Malaysian Embassy in Sri Lanka. Although it was a short dinner, it was filled with warm laughter as we had buffet and lou-sang along with leftover Chinese New Year goodies.

On the 16th February, we attended a talk at the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) where invited architects from around the world gave talks on topics such as the Green Approach Towards Regional Wisdom in Sustainable Architecture. Malaysia had 2 invited speakers; Ar Adrianta Aziz and Ar Ridha Razak who gave a talk on the "Dynamism of Architecture in Asia." Overall, it was a very insightful event and it opened my eyes on the possibilities of modern architecture.

During our last night in Sri Lanka, we dressed up in Malaysia's traditional costumes and attended the Awards and Closing Ceremony at the Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo. We had feelings of pride whenever we were called on stage to receive the prizes, however it was also a bittersweet moment as it we knew it would be the last time we saw our opponents who we had formed special bonds with throughout the tournament.

Overall, I am truly blessed to have had this golden opportunity to take a short break from my university life to join this rollercoaster ride together with an amazing team of people. I also celebrated my birthday during this trip and although I was thousands of miles away, it felt like I was celebrating my birthday at home thanks to the group of people I travelled with. Deep down, I know the end of this trip will not mark the end of our friendship, but rather a beginning to greater adventures in the future.

Sharon hails from Kuching and is in Kuala Lumpur pursuing her architectural studies presently.



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