Visioning Malaysian Landscape

Mazlina Mansor
Ismawi Hj. Zen
Jamilah Othman
Nor Zalina Harun

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UNDERSTANDING THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF MALAYSIAN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Nurhayati Abdul Malek

Department of Landscape Architecture, Kulliyyah of Architecture and Environmental Design
International Islamic University Malaysia

ABSTRACT

Landscape Architecture is a field that combines science and arts in designing outdoor and public spaces which require both creative and scientific approach. It is the ability of landscape architects to be able to produce a detail and convincing design process which will later lead to a project planning, and management as well as project implementation. This chapter will explain the link from teaching process or the knowledge domains practiced by landscape architects worldwide until the actual design process which is often practiced by Malaysian landscape architects mainly. Design process is the important stage in any landscape professional practices works as it involves giving the initial yet important ideas to be accepted by the client of the project.

Keywords: Landscape Architects, Practice, Design Process, Malaysia

INTRODUCTION

Landscape architecture involves designing outdoor and public spaces or manipulating or managing a site to create a more useful, comfortable and attractive spaces and places for environment, social and aesthetic benefits. A landscape architect should be responsive to the present and future needs of people, and strive to satisfy these needs to achieve enjoyment and happiness in life (Deming and Swaffield, 2011; Filor, W., 1994; Wikipedia).

The general scope of the profession includes: urban design; site planning; town or urban planning; environmental restoration; parks and recreation planning; visual resource management; green infrastructure planning and provision; and private estate and residence landscape master planning and design; all at varying scales of design, planning and management. A practitioner in the profession of landscape architecture is called a landscape architect (Wikipedia, 2011).

Deming et al. (2011), presented several domains of knowledge within the landscape architecture field from the point of view of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA); The Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge (LABOK); a European Thematic Network called the Le Notre project; as well as the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) which also published the peer-reviewed journal called the Landscape Journal. All of these international bodies were based in the United States and European Countries. Sadly, there is yet any confirmed domains of knowledge being known