Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM)

Landska

Jan-Apr 2011

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Malaysia Landscape Architecture Awards
Tough Competition for 2010 Awards

Symposium on Landscape Architecture Education SOLARE 2011 Abstracts



Another Publication By : Institut Arkitek Landskap Malaysia (ILAM) Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) KDN No : PP 1660909/09/2010(025479) ISSN : 2180-0944

Social Landscape Architecture: The Integration of Social Research in Landscape Architecture Education*

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Landscape architecture is an occupation dealing with the physical environment and people. Many schools start their training with the 'Beaux-Arts', then add other approaches into their curriculum, from the 'Modernism' of space designers like Burle Marx, Garrett Eckbo, and Dan Kiley, to 'Multiplism' like 'Landscape Alchemy' where the cultural construction of meaning is through dynamic, interactive and exultant landscapes (Hargreaves, 2009), to what GIS was developed later from ecological approach like 'Design With Nature' (McHarg, 1969), and recent 'Sustainable design and planning' and 'environmental consciousness' practices, etc and combining them to serve for diverse demands so-called 'Eclecticism in Landscape Architecture Education'. (No idea what they are trying to say.)

This paper aims to present the importance of 'social landscape architecture' education in addition to the already, mentioned approaches, in order to amplify the voice of actual space users both directly and indirectly. Therefore, the development of a project should require extensive public involvement from various domains (De Sousa, 2002).

*Theme: Asia-Pacific's Landscape Architecture Education in the 21st Century: Bridging Culture and Green Issues.
**Sub-theme 2: New Research and Innovation in Teaching and Learning Landscape Architecture.

Cultural Landscape: A New Paradigm for Landscape Architecture

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ABSTRACT

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This paper presents a review of the importance of cultural landscape in the context of the landscape architecture profession. It is crucial to understand the concept of cultural landscape as it offers the main contribution in sustaining heritage value and protecting the local identity and original culture of a group of people or a place. From an Islamic point of view, cultural landscape presents the notion of revealing and sustaining the great diversity of the interactions between humans and their environment, to protect living traditional cultures and preserve the traces of those which have disappeared. It is actually an approach to appreciate a pure relationship between humans and the built environment. Therefore cultural landscape must be inculcated in the profession of landscape architecture and this concept must be perceived as an added value in landscape architecture education in Asia. This paper is based on three fundamental frameworks of appreciating cultural landscape, which are history, heritage and culture, which cover the explanation of human roots, identity, image, character and values. It is hoped that the paper will contribute to further enrich the landscape architecture profession's ideas, innovations and added value for landscape architects in future generations.