

June Week

The June residential week was an intensive training week focusing on leadership, teamwork, communication and management. Various specialists from within and beyond the university delivered workshops and lectures, and David Adamson, former Head of Estates, led a tour of some recent university buildings.



Faculty of Divinity



Faculty of English

Workshops were led by Matt Lane on *presentation skills*, by Glyn Jones on *personality type indicators*, by Steve Platt on *team roles* (drawing on the work of Belbin), by Katie Hewitt on *thinking outside the box*, by Rob Marshall on *negotiation skills* and by Tim Holt on *working with the media*. Philip Guildford, Director of Research in the Department of Engineering, ran a working using *scenario planning* to look at future possibilities and their implications.

Evening lectures were delivered by Chris Burgoyne on *The wonder of wheels*, and by Rob Wallach on *How materials science will save the world* and by former Head of the Engineering Department Jacques Heyman on *Mediaeval Vaults*.

Wolfson June Event

The IDBE week comes immediately before the Wolfson June Event (equivalent of a May ball) and IDBE students duly let their hair down



Polly (left), Sam and Andres (top), David, David and Haroon (above)



July Week

Urban design and sustainable communities were the subject of the July week, which was led by Stephen Hill of C₂O Futureplanners. Lectures were delivered by Robin Nicholson on *eco-communities*, David Taylor on *British New Towns*, Peter Studdert on *lessons from Northern Europe*, Steve Platt on *Cambourne*, William Fawcett on *living with uncertainty*, Dave Hampton on *living without carbon*, and Zack Gill on *housing at Elmswell*. Phil Courtier spoke on plans for the *Rackheath eco-community* in Norwich. Evening lecturers included Jeremy Till and Rob Cowan, and Ian Cooper ran a workshop on *Heroes – who needs them?*

The week included a focus on co-housing and Max Comfort described a communal housing scheme in Stroud, while Robert Copcutt described plans for establishing such a community here in Cambridge.

The studio project was entitled *The challenge of 2050: how shall we live and work ... together?* Interdisciplinary teams of students were set the challenge of considering the sort of homes, the sort of places and the sort of settings they would occupy in 2050, as well as the forms of social organization they would pursue. Teams were asked to set out their manifestos for the future and consider future codes of practice for the professional institutions.



Imagining ourselves in 2050: the way we are (left), the way we shall be (right)

Graduation July 2010



IDBE 14 students after their graduation at Senate House

Where are they now?

Fiona Cousins (IDBE 2, 1995-1997)

Fiona Cousins is a Principal with Arup, working out of the New York office. She has been with Arup on-and-off since September 1985, when she started as a pre-university trainee. In that time she has worked in London, San Francisco, Berlin and New York, with a leave of absence in 1994 to build a dispensary in Kashishi, Tanzania, with Health Projects Abroad.

Fiona's engineering degree is in structural and civil engineering but her first year after graduating was spent in Arup's R&D team writing building physics thermal analysis software and she has been involved in comfort, low energy and mechanical systems design ever since.

Her IDBE thesis was on opportunities and barriers to the adoption of new materials in construction. Since then, low-energy design has become an enthusiasm and Fiona started a sustainability team in New York in 2005.

The purpose of the team is to help improve sustainability skills across all disciplines in the New York office and to try to break down the barriers between disciplines so that the right questions can be asked and the best solutions identified. The team is now nine people and includes a planner, two architects, four engineers of various sorts, a policy expert and a facilitator.

Fiona has worked on projects all over the world including High Museum of Art Expansion in Atlanta (with RPBW), the Fulton Street Transit Center (with Grimshaw), Blanton Museum of Art at UT Austin (with KMW) and the Princeton University Chemistry building (with Hopkins and Payette).

Paul Malpas (IDBE 5, 1998-2000)

Whilst undertaking the IDBE programme, Paul was an Associate at Arup, having spent his whole career there since graduating in 1990. His first degree was from the Department of Applied Acoustics at the University of Salford, and he has spent his career building on this to provide a design consultancy on acoustics and audio design in the architectural context.

A key challenge is ensuring that space, form, finishes, loudspeaker fittings and audio technology work together to meet speech intelligibility requirements. He says he has benefitted greatly from a clearer understanding of interdisciplinary working, and his skills have been called upon in sports grounds, airports and rail terminals.

After leaving Arup, Paul was the Head of Acoustics and Audio Design at COMS, where he expanded his experience into a detailed understanding of the audio technology elements of large venue installation solutions. After a brief period at Capita helping re-establish a growing team

of acoustic consultants, Paul has set up Engineered Acoustic Designs Ltd to serve both projects teams and installation contractors. It is becoming increasingly common for aural performance requirements to be written into the contracts of equipment suppliers and installers, who are at risk of carrying responsibility for results that require the bringing together of disciplines including those not necessarily within their control.

Through his work at EAD Ltd, Paul continues to specialise in the creative combination of architecture, acoustics, audio devices, programme material and user interfaces. This has led down two main branches of consultancy: the achievement of effective and intelligible amplified speech in difficult acoustic environments, such as train and underground stations; and the creative production and reproduction of audio-related installation art.

Having graduated from the IDBE course in 2000, Paul continues to be passionate about good design and about the whole user experience of the built environment.

In the news ...

Andy Wong (IDBE 14) presented a paper based on his IDBE thesis on *The sustainability of infrastructure projects in Hong Kong* at the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers Civil Division Conference 2010.



Andy Wong (far left) at the HKIE conference in April 2010

Jeffrey Raven (IDBE 14) presented a paper on *Cooling the Public Realm: climate resilient urban design*, based on his IDBE thesis, at the Resilient Cities 2010 Congress in Bonn in May 2010. A pdf of his presentation is available on his website at www.jeffreyraven.com.

Ozan Yalniz (IDBE 14) lectured at the Architectural Association in February 2010 on *The inevitability of component based design*. With Falko Schmitt he was recently runner-up in a competition for St Patrick's footbridge in Calgary, Canada.



Left: Ozan lecturing to Turkish architecture students in London in June



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