



Built Environment Research News

Never Stand Still

Built Environment

Research

Issue 13 – May 2015

From the Associate Dean Research

Last week UNSW released the latest in its “Change the World” series of publications promoting research. Last year the theme was *10 innovations that changed our world*. This year the theme is *15 women changing our world*. This brochure celebrates the work of 15 female “research trailblazers” who are stars in their field. It is a deserved accolade for senior women working in diverse fields including criminology, psychology, indigenous law, molecular science and marine ecology.

That there is no-one from Built Environment is disappointing, but undoubtedly explained by the threshold for inclusion which was set at the professorial level. And when this brochure was assembled, BE had no female professors.

But it does now with Professor Susan Thompson whose work promoting the benefits of and pathways to healthier built environments has had a major impact on the thinking of both health professionals and planning practitioners.

Associate Professor Catherine Bridge has been another of BE’s very own “trailblazers” through her Enabling Built Environments Program focused on design and quality of life needs for older citizens and people with disabilities plus the Home Modification Information (HMIInfo) Clearinghouse service supporting housing retrofit interventions.

Dr Hazel Easthope is an ARC Future Fellow whose research into issue of housing density and strata tenure have raised important social and policy issues in the planning system’s drive to produce sustainable “compact cities”.

These are just three of over 30 female academic staff members in BE who are making vital theoretical and applied research contributions to all our core disciplines such as architecture, interior architecture, construction, industrial design, planning, landscape architecture.

In fact, BE has more women associate professors than men, the average research outputs of all women in the faculty last year was higher than the men, and also in 2014 they generated \$1.34m in research income – over 25% more than the “male” total.

These are all achievements which we celebrate and they collectively make a substantial contribution to BE’s academic excellence, social engagement and international impact.

Rob Freestone
Associate Dean Research

Research Highlights

Symposium on High Performance Architecture

On Wednesday 29 April the faculty hosted several visitors to talk about their research on aspects of “high performance architecture”, namely the enhancement of environmental performance in terms of sustainability, habitability and costs at different scales: the human, building, and urban scales.

BE has targeted this area for strategic investment to build capacity in both research and teaching.

Scientia Professor Deo Prasad, the CEO of the CRC for Low Carbon Living, chaired the half day event. The four speakers were Professor Ray Cole from the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, University of British Columbia; Professor Phil Jones from the Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University; Dr Stephen White from CSIRO Energy Technology, Newcastle; and Dr Francesco Fiorito from the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning at the University of Sydney. Professor Cole spoke on “The Campus as a Living Laboratory” and Professor Jones on “Energy and the Low Carbon Agenda”. Dr White presented an overview of CSIRO Energy for Buildings Research while Dr Fiorito gave a research presentation on smart facades.

Fruitful discussion ranged across issues in translating vision to action, the promise of the living laboratory concept, and the human side of architectural science.

Faculty Guest Seminar on the UK REF Exercise

On Tuesday 21 April the faculty hosted a lunchtime talk by Professor Mark Tewdwr-Jones, of Newcastle University, on the UK’s Research Excellence Framework (REF). The REF evaluates the research quality of all UK Higher Education Institutions and is used to determine the research funding allocations by the four UK HE funding bodies. While there are similarities with our own ERA exercise the key difference between the two systems is the REF’s focus on the demonstration of impact and the increasing use of metrics such as h-Index measures. And while these are currently not high in the current spectre of research quality measurement in Australia, they are increasingly being discussed in various fora and are likely to be important in the future.



Book Publication Subsidies Announced

A number of individuals and groups are working on book projects at the moment and some of those have recently been successful with applications for grants to assist with publication. Congratulations to the following:

- Paul Hogben/Judith O’Callaghan (Urban Typologies Cluster): *Martin Place*
- Hank Haeusler: *Computational Design – Practice, Research, Teaching*
- Harry Margalit: *Energy, Cities and Sustainability: An historical approach*

We understand that further books are being planned by other staff within the faculty and a second round of this scheme and a second round of funding has now been reopened. Further details can be found later in this newsletter.

Research Symposia/Exhibitions Grant Support Announced

Funding has recently been confirmed to support two research symposia being organised by staff in the faculty. They are:

- Paul Hogben/Judith O'Callaghan (Urban Typologies Cluster): [SAHANZ Conference 2015](#)
- Hank Haeusler: [Media Architecture Biennale 2016 Chatswood](#)

A second round of funding has now been reopened. Further details can be found later in this newsletter.

Meet the Researchers – Sing d'Arcy



Sing is a Lecturer in the Interior Architecture Program, coordinating the 4th year design studios. He first joined BE in 2007 as a sessional academic before becoming full-time in 2011. Sing obtained a Bachelor of Architectural Science, a Bachelor of Architecture and a PhD from the University of Sydney. His doctoral studies were in the field of architectural history, in particular, that of Spanish cathedrals. In 2009 he was an invited scholar at the Art History Department, Universidad de Sevilla, where he was able to conduct his research into the spaces he was investigating first-hand.

Sing's research is transdisciplinary in nature focussing on the relationships between the cultures of music, ritual and space. In 2013 he was appointed as an Associate Investigator to the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions. Working within the performance division of the centre he developed a project that explored the rhetorical and allegorical connections between music and architecture in Baroque Spain. Other publications relating to early modern Spanish architecture have explored the transfer of spatial models between Spain and the Americas; the financial crisis of the 17th century and its impacts on the design and project management of cathedrals; and the procurement and construction of ephemeral interiors.

Not limiting his research to the past Sing is currently investigating through a faculty research grant the potential of using temporary infill interiors in unoccupied CBD tenancies as a means of accommodating user groups with urgent spatial demands. He is also a regular contributor to industry publications such as *Artichoke* and *Houses* where he reviews recent interior projects ranging from hospitality, education through to residential.

Sing is a member of the faculty's Urban Typologies Cluster having participated in their last book 'Leisure Space' as well as their current project on Martin Place.

News from the Centres

City Futures Research Centre



The City Futures Research Centre is delighted to welcome two new members to the BE research team.

Moving from the University of Melbourne, **Dr Chris Pettit** joins as City Futures Associate Director and AGSU Professor of Urban Science. As well as his role in CFRC, Chris will lead the Faculty's development of the new Urban Science component. Formerly Melbourne's Strategic Implementation Coordinator of the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN), Chris also chairs an international working group on Geographical Visualization and Virtual Reality. Recently along with colleagues he

established the first Open Source Geospatial Lab in Australia with a focus on sustainable cities. He has published more than 100 papers spanning geographical visualization, e-research, spatial planning and decision support systems. His current research interests lie in the design of user-centric participatory planning and visualisation tools applicable to spatial planning.



Meanwhile, **Dr Chris Martin** takes up a position as a Research Fellow in the City Futures housing policy and practice group. With an academic background bridging economics and law, Chris comes to UNSW from Tenants Union of NSW where his role as Senior Policy Officer made him responsible for the TU's policy and law reform work. An expert on tenancy law reform, housing affordability and social housing policy, Chris is author of the NSW Tenants' Rights Manual. He completed his Sydney University doctorate on the governance of crime and disorder in NSW public housing in 2010.

HDR News

News and Announcements

Induction Day for all new HDR students was held on Monday 20 April. An introduction to the Faculty, its facilities and services, along with information on research funding, ethics and the APR process was followed by a luncheon for all new students and their supervisors. The invitation was also extended to the rest of the HDR cohort, providing an opportunity for new students to meet and socialise with their colleagues.

New students

Welcome to the following new HDR candidates for 2015:

- **Carlos Bartesaghi Koc** (PhD), '*Designing a GIS-based assessment methodology to the spatial mapping and assessment of Green Infrastructure for Urban Heat Island Effect mitigation*' (Paul Osmond, Alan Peters and Paola Favaro)
- **Saul Deane** (PhD), '*The Governance threat to Public Foreshore and its disconnect from Planning and Design : Case Study Little Manly, NSW*' (Peter Williams, Katrina Simon)
- **Otto Newhouse** (PhD), '*PIM with an active voice: How a Precinct Information Model can support the management of end-user interaction with the physical built environment to achieve low carbon benefits*' (Lan Ding, Jim Plume).
- **Nicholas Papas** (MPhil), '*Exploring Compost Latrines as Long Term Sanitation Solutions for Rural, Coastal Regions in Papua New Guinea*' (Bruce Judd, Stephen Ward)
- **Abbas Shieh** (PhD), '*Spatial orientations of Australian Teleworkers: Applying psycho-social frameworks*' (Hoon Han, Rob Freestone and Glen Searle)
- **Raymond Stevens** (MRes), '*SPACE, TIME AND THE HUMAN MARGIN - A Way of Understanding Spatial & Temporal Symbolism In Traditional Architecture In Relation To Man*' (Peter Kohane, John Gamble)
- **Suhair Zaid Alkilani** (PhD), '*Performance Measurement and Benchmarking Framework for Contractors in Developing Countries: the Case of Jordanian Construction Industry*' (Imriyas Kamardeen, Benson Lim)

Graduating Students

Congratulations to the following HDR candidates who have recently completed their degrees. These students will be attending the June Graduation to accept their awards:

- **Zhimin Wang** (PhD), supervised by Hoon Han and Benson Lim;
- **Lydia Kiroff** (PhD), supervised by Bill Randolph and Rob Freestone;
- **Mary Bernadette Pinnell** (PhD), supervised by Bill Randolph and Simon Pinnegar;
- **Jon Drane** (PhD), supervised by Nancy Marshall and Ian Burnley;

- **Ji Yu** (PhD), supervised by Alan Peters and Hoon Han;

We wish them well in their future research endeavours.

Events

The next monthly cohort workshop for 2015 is scheduled for Wednesday 6 May @ 11:00am, in the AGSU Room (Level 2 – 2001). Dr Hazel Easthope will be giving a talk on 'life as a researcher'. The DPR will be attending and all HDR students are encouraged to come along to contribute their ideas and opinions.

Upcoming BE Events

BE Research Seminar

Windows Upon Planning History

Prof Karl Friedhelm Fischer, BE, UNSW

Wednesday 13 May 2015; 12.00pm, Room 2001, Red Centre

This presentation is about “turns” and paradigm changes in planning history; about changing perceptions, eureka moments and eye-openers which have influenced the processes of city making in modern and post-modern times. Opening new “windows” by taking a fresh look at the complex realities in which architecture, planning and urban politics operate has had dramatic consequences for the way in which cities and city regions have developed.

Cases in point may range from the discoveries of medicine and their significance for urban infrastructure, or from “Booth’s Map of London poverty”, which revealed “How the Other Half Lives” (Riis) via the promises of slum clearance and highway planning and their (partial) reversals to the notion of sustainable urbanism; from re-visioning the perspectives of iconic personalities such as Jane Jacobs and Robert Moses to the discussions about modernism and Fordism and their ‘posts’. Such phenomena are here discussed against the background of Henry James’ (1908) famous metaphor of “The House of Fiction” with its “million windows”, and in 2013, 16 leading urbanists, including 3 members of FBE UNSW opened “Windows Upon Planning History” at an international conference at the University of Kassel, Germany.

Utzon Lecture

Architecture Beyond Experience

Prof Michael Benedikt; University of Texas at Austin, USA

Wednesday 27 May 2015; 6.30pm, Law Theatre G04

We live in a time that recommends achieving personal growth through the having of rewarding experiences. Among those experiences, architects hope, are experiences of wonderful buildings. Benedikt argues that this *experientialism* (as he calls it) turns architecture into a form of entertainment, or a facilitator thereof, rather than what it could and should be, which is not, alternatively, a gateway to heavenly serenity, but rather, an exemplar and facilitator of non-instrumental, second-person, I-You *relationships* between people, animals, rooms, and things.

After looking to the philosopher Martin Buber and the neuroscientist Michael Graziano to help build the foundations of what he calls *relationalism*, Benedikt will show examples of relational thinking in modern painting and photography, in the life and work of Le Corbusier, Louis Kahn, and Frank Gehry, and—by way of providing tools for further thought—his own research with animation, isovists, the “order of shoulders,” and the “fabric of glances.”

[RSVP](#)

Other Events

AHURI Roadshow – The National Housing Research Program: 2016 Research Agenda

Monday 11 May 2015; 2.00pm, Room 3040, Red Centre

Anne Badenhorst, the research director for the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI), will be visiting the faculty to introduce the 2016 research agenda and explain the rules and procedures entailed in submitting proposals for funding. The inquiry topics for 2016 are:

- Housing aspirations and trade-offs
- Social impact investment and housing policy
- Taxation impacts on the housing market
- The future of the private rental market
- Housing and residential land supply

[More information](#)

Driving Innovation with Open Data

Monday 11 May 2015; 3.00pm – 4.30pm, Room 113 in K17 (School of Computer Science and Engineering)

An overarching conversation on open data innovation. The session highlights how democratizing access to information drives innovation and greater impact. Learn how organizations are using the cloud to gather data and discover insights to foster innovation, improve service delivery and address big societal problems. As data becomes more widely available (GIS, weather, research), having access to scalable technology and the multiple data sources that can feed into the technology solution can help create solutions for significant problems in the world. This session highlights real-world examples of how open data is enabling transformative innovation.

Presented by Jed Sundwall, technical business development manager focused on open data at Amazon Web Services. He helps customers use AWS to make data open and available for the public to discover, access, and use.

Early Career Academic Network (ECAN) Seminar: Early-Mid Career Researchers' Forum on Interactions and challenges with Government and Funding Bodies

Thursday 7 May 2015; 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Please join us to hear Dr Andreas Fouras from the Early-Mid Career Researchers Forum discuss innovation and entrepreneurship for ECRs.

Dr. Andreas Fouras from the Early-Mid Career Researcher Forum was promoted to Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Monash University within six years of graduating from his PhD, Andreas is an esteemed academic, Inventor on 25 patents and patent applications and dedicated entrepreneur. Andreas' passion and quality of work has been acknowledged through numerous prestigious awards including:

- Australia's top NHMRC Career Development applicant in his category (2011)
- Australian Davos Connection Australian Leadership Award (2013)
- Monash University Vice-Chancellor's Award for an Early Career Researcher (2013)
- Elected to the Australian Academy of Science member EMCR Forum in 2013.

[More information and to register.](#)

Women in Research Network (WiRN)

UNSW's Women in Research Network helps research active women, who are academic members of staff, connect with one another in order to form positive professional relationships. The network is guided by a planning group of women researchers and supported administratively by the Researcher Development Unit.

[More information and to join the network.](#)

New External Grants

Congratulations to the following faculty members who have recently been awarded research grants:

Hoon Han

Sponsor/Grant: Hanbat National University, Korea

Value: \$25,000

Human interaction and perceptions to/with the mediaskin/façade in Australia.

Research Training – Upcoming UNSW Events

Planning to Publish for Impact

Tuesday 12 May 2015; 9.00am – 1.00pm

The aims of this workshop are to develop a considered and effective approach to building your research profile for impact. This practical workshop will also equip you to sustainably manage your research outputs using selected techniques and resources.

[More information and registration link.](#)

Principles in Preparing a Budget Application

Wednesday 13 May 2015; 10.00am – 1.00pm

The aim of this workshop is to assist researchers in identifying and recognising UNSW's expectations in building the components of a budget for a funding application.

[More information and registration link.](#)

Getting Started with an External Research Partner

Wednesday 20 May 2015; 10.00am – 1.00pm

A new workshop focussed on equipping researchers with the skills needed to get started with an external research partner.

[More information and registration link.](#)

Building Your Research Profile – Tracking Research Impact

Tuesday 26 May 2015; 10.00am – 1.00pm

This workshop, presented by UNSW Library will help you select the best metrics for measuring impact within your discipline, master a range of citation tracking tools and tell your impact story.

[More information and registration link.](#)

Building Your Research Profile – Starting a Conversation about Your Research with Impact

Tuesday 2 June 2015; 10.00am – 1.00pm

Ever wondered how to explain who you are, what you do and why your research is so important and is worth supporting? What will keep your audience interested? If so, this workshop is for you.

[More information and registration link.](#)

Building Your Research Profile – Using Social Media to Promote Your Research

Wednesday 3 June 2015; 10.00am – 1.00pm

Ever wondered how to explain who you are, what you do and why your research is so important and is worth supporting? What will keep your audience interested? If so, this workshop is for you.

[More information and registration link.](#)

Publications

The following 2014 and 2015 research activities have been entered into [ROS](#) since the release of the last newsletter.

Books

Zou, P. X. W., & Sunindijo, R. Y. (2015). *Strategic Safety Management in Construction and Engineering*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

Book Chapters

Han, H. H., Hawken, S., & Williams, A. (2015). SMART CCTV and the management of urban space. In *Handbook of Research on Digital Media and Creative Technologies*. IGI. doi:[10.4018/978-1-4666-8205-4](https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-4666-8205-4)

Freestone, R., Phelps, N. A., & Tewdwr-Jones, M. (2014). Geography, History and the Planning Imagination. In M. Tewdwr-Jones, N. A. Phelps, & R. Freestone (Eds.), *The Planning Imagination: Peter Hall and the Study of Urban and Regional Planning* (pp. 1-12). Routledge. Retrieved from <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415506083/>

Journal Articles

Freestone, R. (2015). Anti-planning in the 1940s: the paradox of Florence Taylor. *Planning Perspectives*, 30(2), 191-209. doi:[10.1080/02665433.2014.918862](https://doi.org/10.1080/02665433.2014.918862)

Ruan, X. (2015). Fusheng.Jianzhu (Shangpian) [Floating Life . Architecture: On Horizontality and Verticality (II)]. *Jianzhu shi [The Architect]*, 173(1), 56-63.

Li, E. F., McCormick, J., & Barnett, K. (2015). A comparison of Chinese and Australian university academics' valence for teaching and cross-disciplinary research. *Higher Education*, 69(4), 583-605. doi:[10.1007/s10734-014-9792-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10734-014-9792-3)

Marshall, N., & Bishop, K. (2015). Is there any correlation between place-making and place attachment?. *International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social and Community Studies*, 9(3-4), 1-10.

Lan Oo, B., Yean Yng Ling, F., & Soo, A. (2014). Information feedback and bidders' competitiveness in construction bidding. *Engineering, Construction and Architectural Management*, 21(5), 571-585. doi:[10.1108/ECAM-04-2013-0037](https://doi.org/10.1108/ECAM-04-2013-0037)

Amati, M., & Freestone, R. (2014). Trans-national promotion of British and American planning practice in the 1940s. *Planning Theory & Practice*, 15(3), 370-385. doi:[10.1080/14649357.2014.932429](https://doi.org/10.1080/14649357.2014.932429)

Conference Papers

Xiao, P., Ding, L., & Prasad, D. (2014). Modelling Adaptive Building Energy Systems and Human Behaviour: An Agent-Based Modelling Approach. In *Grand Renewable Energy 2014 Proceedings*. Tokyo Japan.

Other

Quinn, J. M., & Millikan, L. (2015). *Consumer Factsheet: Showering over the bathroom floor drain 2nd ed.: Consumer Factsheet*. Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, UNSW.

Bridge, C. E., Quinn, J., & Millikan, L. (2015). *Showering over the bathroom floor drain: Showering over the bathroom floor drain*. UNSW, Sydney: HMInfo.

Quinn, J. M., & Bridge, C. (2014). *Summary Bulletin: Electrical Safety in Bathrooms 2ed.: Summary Bulletin*. Sydney: Home Modification Information Clearinghouse.

Did You Know....?

... the university has a survey tool available called KeySurvey?

Some commonly used online research tools, such as Survey Monkey and Facebook, have been found to be problematic for researchers needing to meet the research requirements of data retention, reporting and privacy protection. KeySurvey is web-based software that automates the creation, deployment, analysis, and reporting of surveys. If you have surveying needs, KeySurvey will meet UNSW's ethics approval requirements.

[More information.](#)

Current Funding/Research Opportunities

Faculty Internal Grants Now Open

Applications for a second round of internal research support programs are now welcome. Budgetary allocations under the earlier rounds this year were not completely exhausted, providing another opportunity for fresh applications. There are four schemes:

FRG/ECR Grants

The Faculty Research Grants (FRG) and the Early Career Research (ECR) Grants are flagship BE schemes designed to generate new research initiatives and outputs.

Closing date: **1 June 2015**

[More information](#)

Visiting International Scholars

This program aims to support short term stays in the Faculty by distinguished overseas scholars with the aim of encouraging research collaborations and production of research outputs

Closing date: **24 July 2015**

[More information](#)

Symposia/Exhibition Support

Research symposia include workshops, conferences, and colloquia involving critical discourse around a single topic. Exhibitions can be both traditional physical and digital displays of creative work, with the intent of showcasing faculty research efforts ideally through a formal curated process

Closing date: **24 July 2015**

[More information](#)

Book Publication Subsidy

This program is intended to provide financial support which makes possible the publication of scholarly monographs authored by BE staff by quality commercial publishers (HERDC-eligible books).

Closing date: **24 July 2015**

[More information](#)

National Library of Australia Fellowships

Six funded Fellowships are offered, open to Australian and international researchers and established and emerging scholars. The Fellowships support researchers to make intensive use of the Library's rich and varied collections.

Closing date: **17 May 2015**

[More information](#)

Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc (AFGW) Barbara Hale Fellowship

This \$8,000 fellowship is offered annually to women graduates who are Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia and are enrolled in the second or subsequent year of a PhD degree by research.

Closing date: **31 May 2015**

[More information](#)

Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc (AFGW) Georgina Sweet Fellowship

This \$5,000 fellowship is offered annually to women graduates who are Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia and are enrolled in the second or subsequent year of a PhD degree by research.

Closing date: **31 May 2015**

[More information](#)

Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme

The DAAD scheme funds the exchange of academics (travel and accommodation expenses) between Australia and Germany to work on joint research projects. A particular focus of the scheme is the involvement and development of early career researchers.

Applications for DAAD funding commencing in 2016 open on 9 April and close on **29 June 2015**. A detailed application pack is available on the [Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme webpage](#).

Vice-Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowships

Vice-Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellowships are awarded to early career researchers of exceptional calibre wishing to conduct full-time research at UNSW in any of its [areas of research strengths](#).

Applicants must be either external to UNSW or have commenced employment at UNSW since 1 January 2015.

Closing date: **3 July 2015**

[More information](#)

Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA): Industry-researcher Collaboration Program
Round 2 of the ARENA R&D Program promotes industry and research partnerships that seek to develop and commercialise renewable energy technologies, and to provide a broader range of energy options to reduce future energy costs.

Expressions of Interest are now invited in one of the following four focus areas:

- Balance of System (BoS) cost reduction (either on-grid or off-grid)
- Integration of high penetration of renewables into networks (either on-grid, off-grid or mini-grids)
- Integration of renewable energy for industrial process (excluding electricity generation)
- Integration of renewable energy into buildings or building materials.

EOI Closing date: **3 July 2015**

[More information](#)

Related Links

[BE Research Resources](#)

[UNSW Research](#)