

DEC07

LAND MARK



In this issue

01 An annual report Neil Hobbs FAILA

03 Climate of Design Pictorial Essay

06 Conferences

05 From the Research Desk

02 Who is BEDP

Edwina Richardson

07 Notices

An annual report

Neil Hobbs FAILA

AILA National President

Dear members,

It is hard to believe it is the end of 'two-thousand-and-kevin' already (and no, I can't take credit for that – apparently a Canberra public servant wrote down in their diary the date of Kevin's first trip to Canberra after the election as "28 November, two thousand and Kevin").

I would firstly like to thank all those members and graduate members who have contributed to the work of State Group executives and committees. It is through the efforts of these people that we get our message out to the wider community, and we certainly have a big message to get out there.

There have been very successful state awards held over the past few months, in South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales. Western Australia and the ACT will follow early in the new year.

Most states are running a varied program of CPD events, but remember, there is a much broader sector of CPD events being run by other design and planning professions, we should all make as much use of these wherever possible, while still looking AILA for core CPD events.

I list below the main national activities for the year 2007:

CLIMATE OF DESIGN: The AILA one day national Conference in Adelaide in September. Members and other delegates enjoyed the hospitality of our Adelaide colleagues and engaged in debate on issues raised by the speakers. It was great to see Kongjian Yu in Australia again and to keep open the conversations with him about dealing with climate change and related environmental issues. We hope to see him again one day back in Australia. Other speakers such as Tony Wong, Xuemei Bai (CSIRO), Chris Daniels and James Hayter provided perspectives on related topics – see the report and pictures here in **Landmark**.

Registration: A major change introduced this year has been a new application process to become recognised as a registered landscape architect and to become a professional AILA member. The first stage of this new process is underway as I type, with mentors working through an assessment process with their respective applicants.

The other major change – and this is a reminder – is that all registered landscape architects are now required to report on their CPD. Watch for an announcement very soon on the new online process. Remember you are required to report on achieving 30 points each year – and this reporting takes place with renewals in June 2008.

The Australian Landscape Charter: This initiative followed on from the discussions at the IFLA conference in May 2006 and subsequently was discussed at the Melbourne one-day conference in November 2006. This is a significant document for the advocacy of the landscape by registered landscape architects.

The National Office has carried out salary surveys again with the results being uploaded to the web site.

Education and Accreditation: The AILA National Office and a host of local committees and panels have devoted a lot of energy and time to working through education and accreditation issues throughout 2007. This year we saw the introduction of the National Visiting Panel. In 2006 they visited two programs, QUT and the University of Canberra. A major 'Directions' paper was produced after several months of consultations. This paper has emphasised the directions being taken by the AILA in providing equity in the recognition of the disciplines within landscape architecture. The paper also highlights the necessity to ensure that there is a diversity in the university programs that matches the directions and the diversity of the profession in Australia. Many thanks go out to the volunteers who serve on the seven local accreditation panels.

AILA national web site: The National Office has continued the task of uploading information on projects. This is a never-ending job. While there has been some success in research and publishing information on the projects, the reality is that this could be a full time job, which at the moment is being squeezed in between the day to day running of the national office. But I have been reassured that there will be much more to be published in 2008 and beyond! Meanwhile the site has been very busy with news and events and of course with that very popular section, the JOBS!. On average, the site has posted about 40 jobs per month this year.

LAonline: This year we also managed to publish our first issues of *LAonline*. This new publication complements our national hard copy magazine, *Landscape Architecture Australia*. It has allowed for diversity in styles and in the size of the articles. Please check it out and consider submitting a piece.

Looking forward, just a few highlights:

Landscape Guidelines: The National Office has opened up discussions with the CSIRO and the Green Building Council about the development of the Australian Landscape Principles. These would be provided to guide agencies and governments on how best to address the environmental and climate change issues in any landscape interventions.

Conferences: Keep your eyes on the NZILA web site. We are encouraging our members to treat the April 2008 NZILA National Conference as our next opportunity to come together with our professional colleagues to discuss current issues. See the notice elsewhere in this **Landmark**, and then there's the planning that has already begun for the 2009 National Conference in Melbourne, May 2009.

National Awards: A reminder that the submissions for the AILA National Awards will be called in April 2008.

Education and Accreditation: This work will continue with more national visits to UNSW, Melbourne University and RMIT. The policy is under review to identify mandatory criteria and to ensure relevance. And again, the local panels will be reviewing all programs as part of the on-going accreditation of the programs.





The AILA acknowledges our 2007–2008 National Sponsors



MEMBER ORGANISATION NEWSLETTER

WHO IS BEDP?

Why do we need a national peak body to represent to the needs of built environment design professions? The answer is simple. To provide a clear, concise and co-ordinated industry voice in response to issues that influence the environment in which built environment design professionals work in.

The Australian Council of Built Environment Design Professions (BEDP) is the peak body representing built design professions. The members include; Royal Australian Institute of Architects, Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, Engineers Australia, Planning Institute of Australia, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, Illuminating Engineering Society of Australia and New Zealand, Association of Consulting Architects, and the Association of Consulting Engineers.

As the peak body, the BEDP has substantial support as it represents nearly 100,000 employees in the built environment design professions. The sheer number of BEDP's membership base gives it significant influence and credibility when dealing with key stakeholders and government.

At times it can be challenging to represent all our members' views. However, BEDP works to ensure that the issues affecting design professionals as a whole are our key advocacy areas.

Presently BEDP is actively involved with advocating the interest of the design profession with respect to Occupational Health and Safety, limits of liability, skills shortage and education of future professionals.

In recent years BEDP has been instrumental in the Federal Government declaring 2004 to be the Year of the Built Environment and co-ordinating an Action Agenda on the Design of the Built Environment. It is only with the support of our member Institutes or Associations that we were able to achieve this commitment from the Government to develop an Action Agenda.

The Action Agenda represents a great opportunity for the design professions to achieve government commitment to major reforms that will ensure significant improvement in the design and quality of the built environment. It is particularly significant because it indicates the importance now being placed on the design of the Built Environment.

BEDP has just commenced a new era with the appointment of a new National Executive Officer, Johanna Gastevich. Johanna has over 10 years experience working in the area of sustainable energy and was the Executive Officer of the Western Australian Sustainable Energy Association which she co-founded in 2002. BEDP has also appointed a new Chair, Richard Green, past Director of Australian Consulting Engineers Association.

The built environment affects how we live, work and play and BEDP with our members support, will work with all levels of government, key stakeholders and the community to ensure that we build a better built environment which all design professions will be proud of.

For further information about BEDP visit www.bedp.asn.au or email johanna@bedp.asn.au

CLIMATE of DESIGN

AILA one-day conference, Adelaide September 2007
Photographs by Petra Wiesner



Chris Daniels



Kongjan Yu



Xuemei Bai

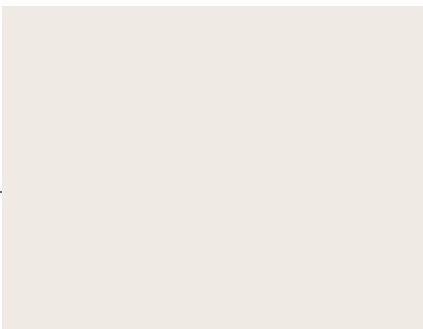


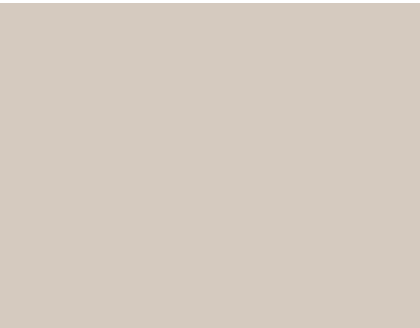
Tony Wong



James Redwood

James Hayter





05

Measuring Landscape Sustainability – Green Rating Tools

Following the successful Adelaide conference, AILA is investigating national green rating tools for landscape developments. The American Society of Landscapes (ASLA) clarifies the issue – “Few methods exist to quantify sustainability of landscapes”.

In a collaborative project, ASLA has announced the development of a sustainable landscape design rating system. This tool will rate the sustainability of landscape developments in the public, commercial and residential arenas. The US Green Building Council will then incorporate this tool into its current rating system.

In October, Paul Costigan and Edwina Richardson from the National Office joined Neil Hobbs, AILA National President, in a meeting with Romilly Madew, the Chief Executive of the Green Building Council. Whilst the Green Building Council has developed a series of rating tools for commercial buildings, including offices, shopping centres and interiors, landscape is treated relatively briefly. Having said that,

the tools do factor in water use in the landscape, protection of flora and fauna, biodiversity changes and innovative solutions. Developing effective rating tools takes money and the creation of technical working groups staffed by voluntary professionals. The process can take 18 months to develop and test.

So while the AILA will track US developments, moves are afoot to produce a series of national sustainable landscape guidelines as a starting point in the process. The AILA intends to partner with the CSIRO and the Green Building Council on this project. The CSIRO have been contributing to recent AILA conferences and seminars and is an enthusiastic partner in these directions being taken by the AILA.

Green Building Council www.gbcaus.org
www.sustainablesites.org

Thompson, J and Sorvig, K (2000) *Sustainable landscape construction: a guide to green building outdoors*. Island Press: USA.

Vibrant sustainable communities What makes a vibrant green community?



Edwina Richardson, from the AILA National Office is managing a grant received from the ACT government to research this issue and apply the findings to Canberra. Richardson will compile 10 case studies from Australia and around the world of projects which incorporate sustainable landscapes. These will be placed online and linked to the AILA website.

In September 2007 she visited the CERES community farm in East Brunswick, Melbourne, which integrates food growing, a plant nursery populated by a gorgeous strutting rooster and his female companions, school education programs (children can get dirty and examine worms and other invertebrates if they want to), solar and wind panel displays, an outdoor café which offers healthy food and a house modified to be more environmentally friendly. What struck her was how well used the site was – on a weekday on a blustery September both primary and high school groups were taking part in educational tours of the site whilst there were lots of mothers with young children in tow.

Visiting Melbourne in November for a meeting with members from the Victorian group on the Education Policy she toured the ‘ecovillage’, Westwyck. Westwyck is located in West Brunswick, seven kilometres from the centre of the city. The development started with the aim to save a historic public school from demolition. The school was saved and down the track converted into seven apartments. A sustainable demonstration urban residential village was formed. The buildings are design to make efficient use of materials, energy and water.

Eight additional townhouses are nearing completion and have been all sold off the plan. Mike Hill and his partner Lorna believe in sharing the land while also having some semi-private spaces, such as courtyards and decks. When the landscape is completed, the residents will share a vegetable garden, clothes drying area and bike storage.

To view the Westwyck site: www.westwyck.com

Your Home and Your Development

The Australian Greenhouse Office has three online initiatives that landscape architects should be keeping an eye on. They are: Your Home, Your Building and (brand new) Your Development.

Your Home technical manual is currently being updated. The AILA is represented on the steering committee for Your Home through Judy van Gelderen from Kiah Infranet who has special expertise in sensitive stormwater planning and design.

The AILA National Office has been talking to the Green House Office about all this work. Edwina Richardson has been providing some feedback directly to their staff on some of the online fact sheets and case studies.

Edwina has also agreed to represent the AILA on the steering committee for *Your development – creating sustainable neighbourhoods*. This is a joint initiative between CSIRO and the Australian Greenhouse Office. The aim of the web portal will be to meet the needs of urban residential land developers and supply information on sustainable subdivision design.

www.yourdevelopment.org
www.greenhouse.gov.au/yourhome/about/index.htm
www.yourbuilding.org



AILA joins Climate Challenge Plus Program

In October 2007, the AILA National Office joined the Australian Greenhouse's Climate Challenge Plus Program. This scheme aims to assist organisations to reduce their environmental impact. Advice is provided on lighting, heating, transport alternatives. Did you know that a lap top uses 90% less energy than a standard desk computer?

To view the Greenhouse Office's fact sheets, use the publication link on the Greenhouse Challenge web site.

Also of interest to Landscape Architects working with reforestation, The Climate Challenge Plus Program has produced a 20 page document on greenhouse friendly forest sink abatement projects. Use the 'greenhousefriendly' link on their web site.

www.greenhouse.gov.au/challenge

Conferences

CLIMATE of DESIGN

AILA National One Day Conference September 14th 2007

Paul Harding AILA

This event, also held at the National Wine Centre was very well attended by local and interstate members of the profession and coincided with the AILA National AGM, held on the Thursday and the State Awards which were held on the following Saturday. This gave interstate members the opportunity to enjoy Adelaide hospitality and the glorious spring weather in the stunning setting of the Wine Centre's Busby Hall, adjacent courtyard and Botanic Gardens.

Professor Nancy Pollock Ellwand, recently appointed Head and Chair of the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design opened proceedings by reiterating the need for modern societies to reduce their eco-footprint and raised the possibility of this being achieved through a focus of creative design on the sustainability of water use and increasing biodiversity in urban environments.

This was a scenario developed by Professor Kongjian Yu who spoke of the need for water adaptive landscapes to enable us to live with climate change. To go with the flow rather than expend energy on futile attempts to reverse a well advanced process. He talked of developing an ecological rather than a technological infrastructure and highlighted the fact that historically, in China the art of landscape architecture has been more successful than the science of engineering in developing sustainable solutions to environmental problems at a lower cost. Professor Yu also drew our attention to the fact that the water crisis in Australia is one of comfort, not survival. Or at least, not yet!

Professor Chris Daniels gave an energetic, often humorous and thoroughly engaging presentation that

included an insight to the fact that Adelaide is 1 of 17 biological hotspots in Australia. A position that could well be in jeopardy with the demise of the big backyard and associated biodiversity and the proliferation of treeless suburbs with no room for the Blue Tongue lizards of yesteryears childhood.

Dr. Xuemei Bai of the CSIRO spoke of cities as environmental heroes and raised the importance of developing sound urban and socio economic policies to address the potential for long term negative effects of poor current urban and landscape planning. Dr. Bai reiterated a point that Professor Yu made about the importance of landscape architects being on site involved early in the development of projects. She proposed that many current problems arose from issues about scale; spatial scale – 'not on my turf', temporal scale – 'not in my term' and institutional scale – 'not my business' and suggested that an integrated approach with specific, localized policies was needed.

Dr. Tony Wong of Ecological Engineering urged us not to allow the 'green washing' of landscape projects but to push for an integrated approach to water sustainability. Dr. Wong proposed the development of 'green infrastructure' that included the city as a catchment with scaleable wetlands to produce a diversity of recycled water and that used drinking water only for drinking.

This was only a small portion of the issues presented and discussed on the day. I found it heartening to be part of this one-day conference and gain exposure to the wide range of personalities and expertise of individuals practicing landscape architecture locally, nationally and overseas. Congratulations to the organizers.

Originally published in the EarthQuake, the AILA SA Newsletter

NZILA Conference

AILA members are encouraged to meet up at the NZILA National Conference. **shift**

Thursday 3–Saturday 5 April 2008
Hyatt Hotel, Auckland New Zealand

watch the NZILA web site for details:
http://www.nzila.co.nz/conf_coming.asp

Check out two stories about overseas conferences:

White Town (Belgrade)

by Caitlin Bell AILA

Caitlin tells the story of attending was the ECLAS (European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools) annual conference. The purpose of these meetings is to share research, ideas and expertise from universities across Europe, in order to maintain and expand a dialogue around landscape architecture. The schools in which landscape architecture is taught in Europe are diverse – schools of art, technology, architecture, and agriculture – and some are surprisingly new: courses in Austria, Iceland, Spain and the Baltic Republics, including Serbia, were only initiated in the 1990's. This, together with the diverse landscape conditions of each country, makes for a highly varied discussion. The theme of this year's conference was 'Landscape Assessment', or site analysis. Recently, the Council of Europe initiated a European Landscape Convention, under which landscape professionals practicing in committed countries are obliged to perform a mandatory landscape assessment. The conference began by questioning how a landscape should be assessed, particularly across borders, with all European countries having alternative methods of assessment, and contrasting cultural values invested in the landscape.

more online: : www.aila.org.au/laonline

UK Landscape Institute 2007 Annual Conference

01–02 November 2007

Climate Change: The Challenge for Landscape Architecture

The annual conference of the Landscape Institute was held at Regent's Park in London on the 1st & 2nd November, 2007. Regent's Park was designed by John Nash in 1811 and it was a fitting venue as the park is a clear expression of Nash's philosophy to build connections between people and outdoor space. This conference was of particular interest to us as we Australians are presently in the middle of a climate change debate about who is responsible for initiating action and what action is required. Our clients, with varying degrees of sophistication, are beginning to accept that as the climate changes, our buildings and landscapes need to respond. This is most immediately evident as our clients seek means to mitigate the ongoing effects of the drought that large parts of Australia are enduring.

more online: : www.aila.org.au/laonline

LAonline

Summer Issue: www.aila.org.au/laonline

SEEKING CONTRIBUTIONS

LAonline: www.aila.org.au/laonline

Always seeking new stories, postcards, views, technical articles, travel stories and research for publication in LAonline. The summer issue is now out and we look forward to contributions to the Autumn Issue. Contact the National Office if you have some summer writing underway and you are looking to publish it soon. Copy due end of February.

Notices

Careers – secondary school information

Looking for a pamphlet to hand out to secondary school students?

Or are you wishing to advise a school advisor or a student where to find career information?

A downloadable pamphlet and more links to information are now on the web site:

www.aila.org.au/careers

National Stewardship Awards

In 2006, the AILA announced the inaugural National Stewardship Awards.

This award allows the AILA to give recognition to agencies and the owners who have made significant effort and commitment to look after our designed landscapes. Submissions for these can be received any time

www.aila.org.au/stewardship

Significant Landscapes

The inaugural listing of Significant Landscapes was announced last year with 26 sites listed and another 80 to be researched.

The criteria for a Significant Site is online. Nominations can be received any time.

www.aila.org.au/significant

The AILA's Company Constitution

The AILA is a legal entity that has a Company Constitution. This important legal document was recently updated through a special general meeting. The constitution is on the web site:

<http://www.aila.org.au/constitution>

The AILA's Competition Policy

The AILA works with agencies to have their competitions relevant to the professions. If agencies agree to the guidelines, the AILA is able to endorse their competition.

Agencies can download the policy from the web site:

<http://www.aila.org.au/competition>



Cover: Wood store, Westwyck
Photograph by Edwina Richardson



LANDMARK is produced by:

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects

AILA National Council 2007–2009

National President: Neil Hobbs FAILA
1st Vice President: Mandy Rounsefell AILA
2nd Vice President: Mark Fuller FAILA
Treasurer: John Easthope FAILA
Secretary: Niall Simpson FAILA
SueAnne Ware AILA
Paul Harding AILA
Marisa Fontes AILA
Naomi Kavanagh AILA
David Moir AILA

Australian Institute of Landscape Architects
GPO Box 1646
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Telephone: 02 6248 9970
Facsimile: 02 6249 7337
Email: admin@aila.org.au
www.aila.org.au

AILA State Group Contacts

ACT AILA Group President
Andrew MacKenzie AILA
GPO Box 1646
CANBERRA ACT 2601

NSW AILA Group President
Garth Paterson AILA
NSW AILA Secretariat
PO Box 655
LANE COVE NSW 2066
02 9427 4669
AILA.NSW.GROUP@bigpond.com

NT AILA Group President
Ken Kirkman AILA
GPO Box 3359
DARWIN NT 0801

QLD AILA Group President
Chris Boulton AILA
QLD AILA Secretariat
PO Box 2029
RUNCORN QLD 4113
07 3345 1800
qld@aila.org.au

SA AILA Group President
Alison Radford AILA
GPO Box 1584
ADELAIDE SA 5001

TAS AILA Group President
Lesley Gulson AILA
GPO Box 374 - D
HOBART TAS 7000

VIC AILA Group President
Mark Frisby AILA
VIC AILA Secretariat
PO Box 18025 Collins St East
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
03 9650 1898
ailavic@raia.com.au

WA AILA Group President
Greg Grabasch AILA
C/- udla
1g Norfolk Street
FREMANTLE WA 6160

ISSN 1328-5181

Executive Director

Paul Costigan

Disclaimer

Unless otherwise stated, the views expressed in this publication are not to be regarded as the official opinions of the above named organisation.

Copyright

Is retained by the original authors and project designers.

Production

LG2 designers
Phone: 02 6286 3039
Web: www.lg2.com.au

Printed on recycled paper.