

WHAT'S
UP?

Unprecedented torrential rain over Kyushu, the southern island of Japan, days after Typhoon Nanmadol, triggering floods and mudslides that wrecked hundreds of homes, roads, bridges and rice terraces. Almost 500,000 people have been ordered or advised to evacuate their homes in south-west Japan after torrential rain triggered widespread flooding. Hundreds of people in remote villages were being air lifted by military helicopters to safety.

In the hardest-hit Asakura city in Fukuoka, record high rain fall of 1000 millimetres was observed over a 24 hour period. The storms broke trees on the mountain and the broken trees together with the mud, stone and continuous flow of rain water were washed down the mountains. The destruction was magnified as the fast flowing trees smashed into residential houses, bridges and roads. Hence, roads were blocked and rivers were choked.

Many people lost their lives, homes and farms in this flood disasters. The infrastructure were damaged. Enormous number of trees, logs and debris were strewn across the streets. Restoration works began after the end of the disaster. Assistance were given by local government, Japan National Council on Social Welfare, NPOs, public interest corporations and companies, etc.

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In response to the disaster, Kyushu University form a

“Northern Kyushu Heavy Rain Disaster Survey • Restoration • Reconstruction Assistance Team”

which made up of members from disciplines such as disaster prevention, rivers, forestry, living things, ground, and information, etc. The various discipline experts will be able to contribute to a more wholesome strategies to help in the recovery of the destructed villages, towns and cities. They are working with the village head, village office people, and local government to derive viable measures to deal with future direction of recovery.

Also, the Faculty of Design, Kyushu University, has initiated the

“Disaster Drift Revitalization Project”,

looking at ways of reusing the driftwoods that are muddy, trapped with stones and filled with scratches.

With the help of Mr Sugioka, Sugioka Sawmill of Asakura City and permissioned Asakura Prefecture Maintenance Office, 9 cedar, 2 cypress, 3 camphor were washed, saw to size and brought to Kyushu University, Faculty of Design. **The members of the faculty planned to use these driftwoods as building materials to facilities related to the disaster areas, furniture necessary for temporary housing and Sculpture making.** They plan to offer these wooden products to victims free of charge and donate the sales.

Professor Kenichi TANOUE is working with Nakagawa Town to design and make signboards for public facilities with Asakura

HOW can WE HELP?



Driftwood using Itakura construction methods. Associate Professor Ogata is designing furniture using the driftwood for the people taking refuge in the temporary housing. He is also making gliders to be used in a workshop "Flying! Glider" for children. This project was to make kids run a glider while making gliders and skipping with them in the hope that it will help to release the pain in the hearts of the children experiencing various difficulties during the disasters. Associate Professor Tomotari is in the process of sculpturing a dragon using the driftwood and give it to a local elementary

school. Dragon is regarded as the god of water. She hopes that this sculpture will serve to protect the area. Bookmarks and Asakura Driftwood Logo was also created with the help of Associate Professor Jo, Assistant Professor Inamura, Mr. Ito, Mr. Tsuda Kobo.

One student also participates in the disaster drift restoration project. Ms. Mayuko Tsuru, was studying how to design and make new things using waste materials. In this project, she is able to use the driftwood as a material to her study and to design new products.

Associate Professor Kazuo ASAHIRO from the Department of Environmental Design is involved in the restoration of agricultural land in Kurokawa District, Asakura City.

When disaster struck, help are usually given to the victim and restoration of infrastructure and homes are priority to the government and the Social Welfare Organization. Little help will be given to restore the farmland of these victims. These victims usually depend on themselves to restore their farmlands. It is difficult for most of them because they are aging farmers and restoration of farmlands require lots of manpower. If the farmland are not restored, many will lose their livelihood. In addition, the Japanese agriculture landscape and culture will be lost in no time.

At the Kurokawa District, Associate Professor Asahiro work with three NPOs to provide help to the farmers to restore their lands. Kyushu University students also chipped in to help. After the flood, the house of the farmers are filled with mud and there are sediments and wood chips scattered all over the fields which made the harvesting of rice using machine impossible. Weeds are also growing in the fields as the fields have not been taken care of for a period of time. The volunteers helped to clear and clean the mud filled houses, harvesting the rice by hand and removing the weed by hand. It is a very tedious work but they are willing to do it for the right cause. This project will stretch to March 2018.



Associate Professor Kazuo ASAHIRO is professor from Environmental Design in the Faculty of Design. He specialized in Landscape Conservation. Currently his research focused on the conservation of secondary nature and forests, ecological research of secondary woodlands, research related to rehabilitation of agricultural land through mutual assistance in disasters (Asakura Flood and Kumamoto Earthquake), research related to volunteer tourism, and research related to green space conservation in Bangladesh.

Through human conservation management, he hopes the biodiversity, amenities, aesthetics, production of agricultural and forestry products, disaster prevention, and other public-interest functions of green space environments are maintained. His research aims to provide society with conservation designs (plans/designs) that contribute to the relationship between people and nature by carrying out research and education, making recommendations, and implementing projects in cooperation with local residents, government agencies, and specialists, committing to social issues in order to promote sustainable community living environments as well as conservation/regeneration of the natural environment, analysing historical and natural contexts, and clarifying conservation mechanisms.

“While natural disasters capture headlines & national attention short-term, the work of recovery and rebuilding is long term.”

Sylvia Mathews Burwell

Everyone needs to play a part for the recovery and restoration to happen.



Professor Kenichi TANOUE from the Department of Environmental Design is a practicing architect whose current research focus on helping victims from disasters to regain their lives and to contribute in the area of architecture. In Kumamoto, he designs and build kindergarten and community centre to support the community in the affected area. For Asakura, he is a member of the Kyushu University “Northern Kyushu Heavy Rain Disaster Survey • Restoration • Reconstruction Assistance Team”, looking at restoration measures and solutions.

In Manila, Philippines, Professor Tanoue is helping the Informal Settler Families who suffered from flooding due to annual typhoon to address their security of tenure and livelihood issues in hope to achieve a sustainable development in the country. He proposed a project that aims to generate design template for: a) small-scale, multifunctional community with spaces that foster community development; b) expansive housing unit that can be physically extended depending on the households’ financial situation; c) attaching rental housing units for middle/high income beneficiaries, or for allocating a portion for “commercial space”, both to generate community savings; and d) for building convertible common educational space to community playground.

Professor Hiroyuki KANEKIYO

Professor Hiroyuki KANEKIYO is a professor of the Environmental Design in the Faculty of Design. He also served as the Department Head for the Environmental Design. He specialised in Landscape Management and Landscape Planning and Design. His research interest lies in designing streetscape at sightseeing areas, planning approach for open space systems including waterfront in the urban and natural area, landscape characteristics based on people's gardening activities and rural landscape conservation.

About...

When we first met, I was intrigued by two of his questions.

Do you know that 50% of the urban space is open space?



“How can we let people be happy?”

through designing the environment around them.

Perhaps these are the grounding questions to his research work and research interest.

One of the research that Professor Kanekiyo embarked on was to develop a theory of planning for the urban places in people's lives which are spaces that provide various life experiences for people to enjoy in their living environment. The objectives were to understand people's satisfaction level with their environment, what do they like about their living environments, why they like the spaces, what it means to them. Based on these understanding of people and their environment to derive the requirements and factors affecting their satisfaction level and hence deriving a theory for future planning of the urban spaces to improve the living environment for people to enjoy.

His recent project in Kanatake no Sato Park

looks into the conservation of the agriculture and culture landscape. Kanatake no Sato Park is a city park that lies at the peripheral of the city. It has beautiful agricultural landscape. Unfortunately, the population living in the area is ageing. Agriculture work may not be easy and sustainable to the aged population. Some lands were sold for other purposes. As a result, the landscape is changing, and beautiful nature and culture are put to risk. This research looks into the regional characteristics of these areas, understanding the behavioural characteristics of the local residents and the inter-relationship between the landscape resources and the living environment in the hope to conserve the green environment that can be passed on to the next generation and as a means of livelihood to the local residents.

Joint Workshop

August 23 to 31

A joint workshop between **Kyushu University (KU)** and **National University of Singapore (NUS)** was conducted from 23 to 31 Aug 2017, at NUS. A group of students from KU who are in the Year 2 (7 students) and Master Programme (6 students), collaborated with the Year 1 and Year 3 architecture students from NUS respectively. They worked in teams for the studio project.

**Cross Culture
Working in Teams
Building Relationship
View from Different Perspectives
Understanding People Needs
Learning Experiences**

KU Year 2 x NUS Year 1

**Essential Elements
of Architecture
New Hawker Centre
Tropical
Climate
Culture
Singapore**

The challenge for this group of students was to design a new type of hawker centre focusing on the four elements of architecture and paying special attention to the climate and culture of Singapore.



The group started with a lecture on the discourse of architectural elements in the history of architecture by Assistant Professor Iwamoto from Kyushu University. The architecture elements have evolved from The Primitive Hut by Marc Antoine Laugier to The Four Elements of Architecture by Gottfried Semper. With the focus in functionalism, Le Corbusier updated the architectural elements from the perspectives that "a house is a machine for living in" in his Five Points of Architecture. In the

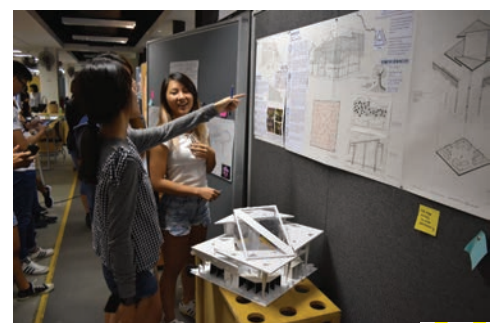


recent years, Rem Koolhaas and his collaborators traced the evolutions of 15 Architectural elements and presented at Venice Biennale 2014, revealing the process of their de-materialisation and informatisation. Assistant Professor Iwamoto highlighted that almost all discourse had been held in a western context, and the modern architectural elements are not always adequate in the hot and humid Asian countries. They need to identify their architecture elements taking into serious consideration of the climate and culture in Singapore.



Having this knowledge, the students grouped in teams and set off for site investigation and interviews with the users in the neighbourhood. With the understanding gathered from the

investigation and interview, they brainstormed ideas and presented them in A2 papers and models. A gallery walk and critique session were followed to allow questioning and deepening of knowledge.



**KU Master Students
X
NUS Year 3**

**Holland Village
Urban Design
Architecture Design
Masterplan
Site Characteristics
High Density**

For this group of students, they are working on the studio project that focussed on urban and architecture design on a given site.

Dr Tamura from NUS gave lectures to introduce Urbanism, and the students were briefed on the studio projects by the various tutors. The students then embarked on-site visit to the given site, Holland Village, to understand the function, culture and the interaction of the people and space.



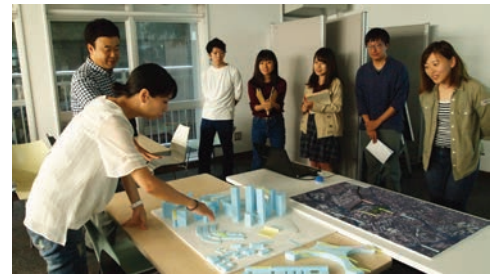
Holland Village is developed as a small commercial area where traditional shop houses were conserved and reused for retails, food and beverages, spas and other outlets. The given site, bounded by the public housing, hawker centres, car parks, green areas and Civil Service College, is currently a public car park planned for a residential development for the future.



The tasks given for these students were to investigate the given site and to look into a potential urban function, life and culture, thus

proposing an urban masterplan for the future. They need to tackle possible future problems caused by high-density population and optimising the characteristics of the site. At the same time, design architecture that can emphasise the relationship with the surrounding contexts, demonstrating people's activities, atmosphere and function in a concrete manner.

The students from Kyushu University continued the project backed in Fukuoka and presented to Dr Tamura on 2 Oct 17 when she visited the university.



In general, KU students gained enriching learning experiences from this joint workshop. It is an eye-opener for them to experience a multi-racial society and bilingualism. It was also surprising to them that consideration was taken for the integration of races in the design of public housing. Though a small country, great consideration on landscape design have been taken to make the country beautiful. The rich diversity of architecture from the old shop houses, public housing, colonial-styled buildings, modern and futuristic buildings gave excitement and created a beautiful cityscape.



**SEE
TOUCH
FEEL**

ARCHITECTURE TOUR AROUND SINGAPORE

Singapore is a multi-racial, cosmopolitan, high-density city with diverse culture and architecture ranging from the ethnic-influenced old buildings, colonial-style architecture, and its unique public housing to modern futuristic architecture. The students have the chance to view and experience the different types of buildings, the multi-culture society and the different ethnic food.

Joint Research

September 7 to 15

In September 2017, Professor Masakazu TANI and Associate Professor Tomo INOUE lead a group of Kyushu University students to work with BUET professors and students to develop a chronological method by physical attributes of steel/iron building parts to date vernacular structures in Panam Nagar. The vernacular structures in this ancient city have not been evaluated in a cultural history. These vernacular structures are important to understand the culture of the city and to generate the pride of the native culture.



Currently, there is a lack of dating documents to assist in the research.

Kyushu University (KU), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Premier University (PU) collaborated in joint research on Steel Beam Archaeology of Vernacular Structures in British Colonial Period of the historic buildings along the street of Panam Nagar in Panam City. Panam City was established in the late 19th century as a trading centre of cotton fabrics during British rule. Hindu cloth merchants built their residential houses following colonial style with inspiration derived from European sources. Today this area is protected under the Department of Archaeology of Bangladesh.



Hence it is not easy and direct to date the vernacular structures. As such, archaeology methods such as the use of certain observable attributes of artefacts as datable indicators were employed.

This study attempts to develop a dating method of vernacular buildings by using the physical attributes of iron/steel parts regarding the styles of cast ironmongery, maker's mark and size of the cross-section of the steel beam. The teams recorded the styles of the steel structure, the maker's mark and the size of the cross-section of the steel beam to compare with the catalogues of the steel beams

from the steel manufacturers during the late 1800 and early 1900 to derive the date that the buildings were constructed.

Also, the team research into the bricks used in these historic buildings. Noting the size of the bricks and taking a very small sample of bricks and mortar to analyse the chemical composition so as to identify the age of the buildings and the material and production method at the time.

At the end of the field research, the team shared their findings with BUET counterparts.

The 22nd International Forum on Arsenic Contamination of Groundwater in Asia

3 and 4 November

The two days forum was co-organized by Asian Arsenic Network, Faculty of Design and Environmental Design Global Hub of Kyushu University.

The forum was an annual event where experts came together to share their research findings and solutions in the area of arsenic issues about supplying safe water to the poorest and grass root community. It also served as a platform for networking between experts of diverse specialisation for future collaboration.

This forum was organised into five sections. Namely, Environmental Design, Environmental Science, Environmental Technology, Presentation by Asia Arsenic Network and Society and finally concluded with a discussion on the Arsenic Contamination of Groundwater in Asia in the future. There was a wide range of topics shared such as Arsenic removal performance, disposal of high radioactive waste, underwater arsenic purification

device, assessment of heavy metal pollution in water and soil, survey on environmental education and school awareness activities for sustainable use of safe water, sustainable safe water supply system, turning bio-waste to high value porous carbon, status reports on Asia Arsenic Network's projects, etc. This diversity enabled an enriching discussion as the finale to the two days forum.



The International Symposium on Quality Assurance in Design Education was organized by Kyushu University, Faculty of Design.

Facing unprecedented social change, Design continues to expand its boundaries. With expectations growing, change is due to the qualities possessed by those that profess Design, and the Design Education that nurtures them. The international symposium on Quality Assurance in design Education is an emerging forum for debate that explores the tangible pathways toward our common futures with those in Education, Industry and Government. We heard from academics from local and overseas universities exchanging views and sharing on the roles of designers in the future, the structure in design education that ensure its relevance to future social needs, case studies of innovation and future facing educational practice and finally a panel discussion on

“What should Design Education do for the future?” which ignited an active participation of perspectives and questions between the participants and the panelists.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM on QUALITY ASSURANCE in DESIGN EDUCATION

21 October 2017

Importance of
WHY Design?
Knowing
the **Impact** and
Implication of
Design.

The **Outcome** of
design is
NOT for design but
for the society.
Design must be linked
and serve goodness to
the society.

Ability to keep
Questioning
the
importance of
design

**Critical
Creative
Integrative
Thinker**

SPEAKERS
Yoshitsugu MORITA, Kyushu University
Masakazu TANI, Kyushu University
Tadanori NAGASAWA, Musashino Art
University
Kun Pyo LEE, KAIST
Christian BOUVHARENC,
National University of Singapore
Guosheng WANG, Tsinghua University
Takatoshi USHIAMA, Kyushu University
Tsuto SAKAMOTO,
National University of Singapore
Kenji TOKI, Miyagi University
Chenwei CHIANG,
National Taipei University of Business
Lu Zhang,
Dalian University of Technology
Kenta ONO, Chiba University
Tek Jin NAM, KAIST
Eizo OKADA,
Kyoto Institute of Technology
Puay Yok TAN,
National University of Singapore
Wei Leong LOH, Kyushu University
Minako IKEDA, Kyushu University

Knowing and
Learning
from **the past**
to move into
the future

Designer as
Director.
AI replacing designer
role in sketching and
making.

Complex system,
more uncertainty.
Experimental
and
Scientific
skill required.

The **function** of
design is
NOT to generate
new things,
but to generate
new values
in old things.

Design Fundamentals.
Human-Centred,
mindful consideration of
Impact to Environment,
preserving
Culture Identity
and **Ethical**
considerations.

Collaborative
Learning.
Embracing Diversity.
Different culture and
values meet which
values collide to
create new values and
better designers.

Announcement

Kyushu University
Faculty of Design



**Technological and Higher
Education Institute of Hong Kong**
Faculty of Design and Environment

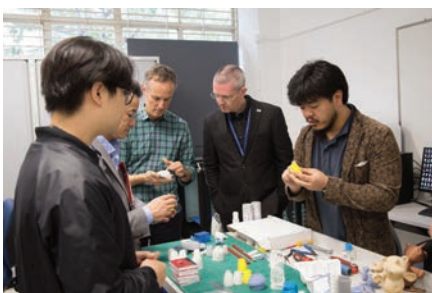
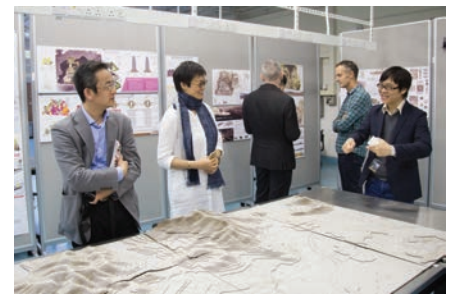
AGREEMENT on ACADEMIC COOPERATION



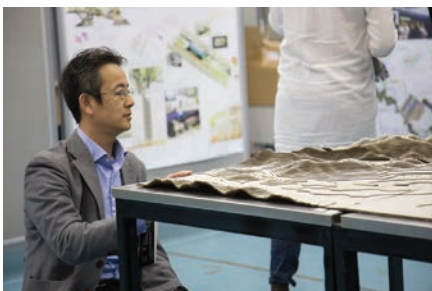
During March this year, Associate Professor Kazuo ASAHIRO, Assistant Professor LOH Wei Leong, Leon, Assistant Professor Tokushu INAMURA and Ms Atsuko EJIMA from Kyushu University (KU), Faculty of Design, visited the Faculty of Design and Environment, Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong (Thei) to discuss about the possibility of academic cooperation.



During the visit, members from both faculties shared about the respective programmes and objectives; and discussed on areas of possible collaboration to deepen and broaden the learning and research for students and the academic staff. It was followed by a visit to the various educational facilities such as 3D printing Lab, workshops and design studios. The KU members also had the opportunity to look at design works done by Thei students. Overall, the visit was enriching and fruitful. The KU members gained good understanding of Thei's educational philosophies and objectives that aimed to marry professional practice with research that cater for current and future needs at local and global level.



The visit in March bore fruit in October 2017. An Agreement on Academic Cooperation between Faculty of Design, Kyushu University and Faculty of Design and Environment, Technological and Higher Education Institute of Hong Kong, China, was signed for a period of 5 years. Both parties have committed to promote and develop the Academic Cooperation through the exchange of academic staff, administrative staff and students, joint research and other agreed exchanges.



Lecture

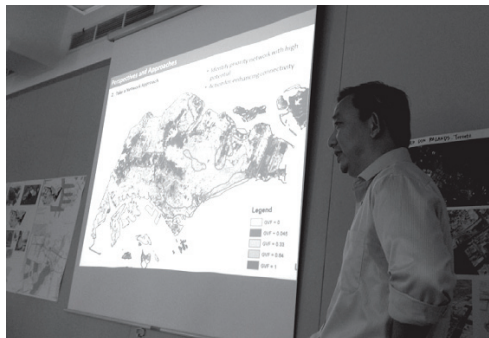
20 October

Associate Professor Tan Puay Yok, Assistant Professor Hwang Yun Hye and Assistant Professor Jessica Cook from National University of Singapore (NUS) gave our second-year student a talk on the

NUS Master of Landscape Architecture Programme (MLA)

and the overview of the Research on Landscape Studies undertaken by NUS.

The NUS MLA aims to train the next generation of landscape architects in practice and academia who will be **stewards** in shaping a **liveable, sustaining** and **resilient** environment. The two year full-time programme provides a landscape architecture education that is sensitive to the myriad challenges facing Asian cities, as well as opportunities provided by the sheer richness of heritage and cultural, social economic and ecological elements of the region.



The university adopted a research-centric teaching approach. The curriculum focus on landscape design, landscape theory and science, landscape practice and management. It consisted of 4 Design Studios that are progressing in scale and complexity from “Quarter” to “City” to “Country” to “Region”, 1 Dissertation and 11 other modules in environmental science, urban ecology, geo design, detail design, history and theory of landscape architecture, etc.



The design studio seeks to develop higher level skills and knowledge in landscape architecture through design projects. The studio topics are varied, ranging from everyday cycling in Singapore, high density coastal informal settlements, rapid urbanising agriculture landscapes, landscape impacts of tourism development, scarred landscapes and resource management to potential of landscapes in peri-urbanising areas. Though the design is a core emphasis, it is grounded in social-cultural sensitivities, ecological knowledge and grasp of emergent technologies and techniques.



Hence, site research is a core skill of the design studios. Site exploration, various research activities and knowledge of the use of the various tools to gather data from the site are inbuilt in the studio to allow students to have a clear understanding of the context before embarking on possible design solutions. These site visits, locally and overseas, widen the students’ knowledge and perspectives on the different issues that Asian cities are facing.



The Landscape Studies cluster in the faculty undertakes research to generate new knowledge of landscapes as socio-ecological systems, and promotes the use of knowledge in governance systems and landscape design that improve the well-being of humans and the ecological integrity of the environment. The geographic focus is primarily high-density urban regions in Asia, but members of the cluster also work in the transitional zones within the rural-urban continuum, where urban regions are expanding at a rapid rate into rural landscapes. The overall research

approach is both interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary; we are concerned with not just advancing knowledge, but also applying the knowledge in practice and public policy to shape the environment.

After the lecture, it was followed by a sharing of Kyushu University Environmental Design Undergraduate Programme, particularly in the area of landscaping with the NUS lecturers, by Professor KANEKIYO and Associate Professor ASAHIRO. They have also shared about their research areas.



Lecture

4 December



We are very happy to have Mr Kuniaki YAMASHITA shared with us about his journey in UNESCO, his past 50 years of life and his heart to build a stronghold of peace.

Mr Yamashita is currently serving as the Director of Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JPSP) in the Bangkok Office since 2012. He started his career in the UNESCO Association in Japan for more than 20 years, then he moved to UNESCO Head Office Secretariat in Paris as Program Specialist for almost 9 years and another 9 years with Kyushu University of which 7 years serving different leadership position, Dean of Faculty of Languages and Cultures and Executive Adviser to the President of Kyushu University.

During this lecture, Mr Yamashita shared about the main roles of JPSP (which covers ASEAN region, Bangladesh and Nepal):

- Collaborate with academic institutions in ASEAN region.
- Provide information about fellowship programs in Japan for researchers in the region.
- Organize academic seminars.
- Maintain and strengthen relationship with former JSPS fellows.
- Assist Japanese researchers and university administrators who visit ASEAN region.

He also shared about how and why UNESCO was established. In 1942, during wartime, the governments of the European countries, met in the United Kingdom for the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME). These countries were looking for ways and means to reconstruct their systems of education once peace was restored. Upon the proposal of CAME, a

United Nations Conference for the establishment of an educational and cultural organization (ECO/CONF) was convened in London from 1 to 16 November 1945. It gathered together the representatives of forty-four countries who decided to create an organization that would embody a genuine culture of peace, establish the "intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind" and, in so doing, prevent the outbreak of another world war. At the end of the conference, thirty-seven countries founded the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The Constitution of UNESCO, signed on 16 November 1945, came into force on 4 November 1946 after ratification by twenty countries.

After reading the preamble of the UNESCO Charter "War is born in the minds of people, you must build a tomb of peace in the hearts of people", it triggered Mr Koichi (Liaison Officer of Tohoku Earthquake Contact Office Secretariat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) to initiate the private UNESCO movement to sprout in Sendai. Hence, in 1947, the world's first "private UNESCO Cooperation Association" was born in Sendai, with the aim of promoting the private UNESCO movement based on the philosophy of the UNESCO Charter in Japan, "establishment of peace". This mission still stands today. He went on to explain the UN Sustainable Development Goals and how everyone can and should play a part in volunteer service to help improve lives.

Mr Yamashita shares the same belief as UNESCO and continue to uphold and build peace within his capacity.

NEW Magazine



A+U December 2017 issue solely featured on the architect, Vann Molyvann, and Assistant Professor Iwamoto was the guest editor to this issue.

Vann Molyvann worked in Cambodia during the 1950s to 1960s. He is known as "the father of modern Cambodian Architect", who has built famous landmarks as the Olympic Stadium and the Independence Monument. This issue is the first full-scale monograph that recorded his entire works from the time of studying abroad in Paris to the postwar activities in Cambodia.

Coming UP!

February 2018

- Sakura Science Programme in February 2018. Invited participants will be coming together to share and learn through symposium, workshop and visit around Fukuoka, Kyoto and Kumamoto.

January 2018

- Visit Chittagong to research an adaptive use of vernacular buildings. A collaboration between architecture historians from NUS and eghub.
- Joint Workshop with KAIST Korea. Final Presentation on 19 January 2018.

March 2018

- Symposium titled "From Room to Region: Age Friendly Environmental Design and Planning in the Western Asia-Pacific". 13 to 15 March 2018. Jointly organized by Kyushu University and University of New South Wales.

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