

BEYOND STEDEX 15/16 :  
CONCEPTUAL MANIFESTATION  
OF LANDSCAPE RESEARCH  
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Since the last 6 years, STEdex has been a platform for members in landscape architecture department to exhibit their design works. It grows from students' design works, to the complex landscape planning and nature conservation. Hundreds of projects have been presented and published as a reference and precedent.

This STEdex 15/16, however emphasizes on the significant landscape architectural research in highlighting the niche of the department. Conceptual manifestation represents the general idea of solutions in encountering current landscape architectural issues which ranging from a focused problem of landscape and health, memory and commemoration relationship to a broader subject of landscape planning, ecology and urban greenery. Six artefacts of landscape architectural research works are displayed in this STEdex 15/16.

This chapter starts with a series of images that capture shadow and light exposed over time. The research entitled 'Green Outdoor Environment for Cardiac Patients Rehabilitation Therapy' is presented by Shureen Faris and Nur Syakira to provide evidence on the significant preference of human who interacts with hospital outdoor green environment. The psychological design approach is also noticed in 'Dark Memorial Landscape' which was conceptualized by Shamsul, Noor Azizi and Nasir. This project focuses on the power of text and time to evoke emotional connection with the deceased by using visual images. MH370 Malaysian Airlines digital memorial is used to experiment the hypothesis.

Looking at the environmental issue, Emran and Suhardi use gravitational approach in highlighting mor-

phology of plant root to describe bio-mechanical system of trees. This approach is essential in landscape management as the root system plays an important role in slope stability and ecological equilibrium. In addition to this complex and challenging urban environmental issues, Ashraf, Mohd Yazid and Noorizan hypothetically anticipate that the urban tree planting should be substantially strategized to reduce the future urban air quality problems. Artifact entitled 'To Tree or Not To Tree' provides distinct idea in improving air quality of city streets. Both ideas of root system and planting strategies focus on the current trendy issues of urban greenery.

Finally, Nazri, Suhardi and Mohd Johari explore on broader landscape issue with 'Interactive Public Participation Approach' which focuses on flexibility and interactivity of gamification technology in maximizing participation of public in city planning process. Another social issue is also presented by Osman, Emran and Syihabuddin in creating a landscape for social and recreational place. The concept of Islamic garden is applied in soaring social behaviour as well as interaction of man with man, man with environment and man with Creator.

All these conceptual ideas are manifestation of solutions and essential in showing the concern and commitment towards the betterment for both human and environment. Various media and approaches used in exhibiting the ideas to draw the intention on the distinct methods of landscape architectural research presentation. The approaches are unconventional which would stimulate further detailed investigation to integrate the solution into landscape architectural design.

JURY REVIEW  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
MOHD RAMZI MOHD HUSSAIN

The STEdex'15/16 is an anthology of research undertaken by an academia which aims to expand their knowledge and understanding from the artefact point of view. These exercises will robust the current needs and demand of new findings in landscape architectural field and specialization. In other words, the research and artefact may visually and physically associate the knowledge contribution in expanding the role of landscape architects towards sustaining and greening the nation from economics, social and environmental perspectives. The ideas of research and artefact suggested can be accepted as reasonable, since the matters discussed have concerned on common and specific issues of the built environment.

The first research entitled, "Towards a Resilience City with Interactive Public Participation Approach", the authors are able to demonstrate and utilize the ICT as an interactive tool for the public to respond and acknowledge any news on the existing and proposed development in the city center. Apart of providing an interactive ways of communicating with the publics, this artefact will become as an intermediary to the

decision-makers in the planning processes. The second research entitled, "Raudhah Al-Falah: Garden of Paradise for the People Success", suggests the engagement of an Islamic Garden philosophy and principle in outdoor recreation. As a vulnerable part of a city landscape, public parks offer an extensiveness experiences to its users through communal and individual activities. However, it is more valuable if the artefact would be able to demonstrate and integrate the Islamic principles in solving the current social behaviors (negative impacts) in the public parks.

The third research entitled, "Eco-Cultural Landscape: Between Conservation and Development", the emphasis is on restorative redevelopment for remediating eco-cultural landscape. The artefact highlights the importance of sustainable approach of eco-cultural landscape from the environmental, social and economic aspects for the benefits of the future generation. The fourth research/artefact entitled, "Biophilia Terminal: A Low Energy and High Performance Terminal", reveals the idea of transformation and connection the indoor and outdoor spaces of the transportation terminal

according to the green sustainable approaches and strategies with the application of low energy and high performance terminal. The artefact suggests that the integration of indoor and outdoor spaces will become as an efficient approaches for the natural eco-system in urban environment.

The fifth research entitled, “Green Outdoor Environments (GOEs) for Cardiac Patient’s Rehabilitation Therapy”, draws an attention to the utilization of green outdoor environments (GOEs) as the rehabilitation therapy for the cardiac patients. The links between nature and effects to health have been observed by many different societies across cultures. Thus, this artefact will demonstrate on how the GOEs managed to influence the cardiac patient’s preferences on the spaces and activities towards their rehabilitation therapy. This landscape prescription would be a compre-

hensive approach in between the prescript medicine and the need of the environment for the cardiac patients.

The sixth research entitled, “Morphology of Plant’s Root System along Riverbank as a Key Indicator for City Ecological Balancer”, extends the discussion on the specific approaches of ecological landscape in urban environment. The focus of the artefact is on how the difference plant’s root system along the riverbank protects the area from erosion and enhancing the ecological functions of the river. The artefact may visually show on the trees selection for the ecological benefits along the riverbank. Apart of as an ecological approach, the artefact will provide a habitat for other fauna in the city and also act as a green buffer zone. The seventh research entitled, “Biomimicry: The False Interpretation in Built Environment”, explores

the sustainable solutions to human challenges by imitating nature's pattern and strategies. The artefact will not only confine designer's perspective on the concept of biomimicry, but also contributes to the holistic approach of design interpretation among them in the built environment.

The eighth research entitled, "Improving Air Quality in the Cities Street: To Tree or Not to Tree?" presents the importance of urban trees and vegetation in improving the air and environmental quality of urban environment. Despite its help to reduce the urban heat island impact, the artefact will be an interesting finding for the trees and vegetation selection for the urban plantings. Apart of aesthetic and beautification, urban trees and vegetation play importance elements in sustaining the cities environment through providing the carbon sequestration. The last research entitled,

"MH370: Narration of Dark Landscape Memorial", expresses the nation sadness over landscape narratives regarding the tragedy. The idea, through the memorial landscape artefact devotes the true feeling of the family members involved in the tragedy, thus emotionally create sense of remembrance towards their loved ones. This innovative landscape artefact will be narrated through sound, shadow and axial orientation is served as the fundamental elements to commemorate the catastrophe.

In conclusion, the research and the artefacts provide new knowledges, suggestions, ideas and solutions in dealing with the current demand of landscape architectural field and specialization. Thus, it will benefit among the built environment professions, tested or even applied in the future practices and studies.