

£10,000 scholarship competition

Reminder – closing date 31st May!

Spring

Spring in Cambridge is captured perfectly by @Cambsphoto the Deer Park at Peterhouse College - just a hop, skip and a jump away from the Departments of Engineering and Architecture.



December Course Week – Innovation, new technologies and materials

Rick Mitchell, RAEng Visiting Professor of Innovation, launched the course week, looking at how best to manage and nurture innovation. Industry perspectives came from Richard Saxon and Adrian Campbell (Arup), and cutting edge lectures were delivered from Cambridge researchers on natural material innovation, smart infrastructure and small data. Philip Guildford, Director of Research at Cambridge, demonstrated the importance of research and how it relates to industry. The studio teams used the University's West Cambridge masterplan to identify how to apply innovation to a real world problem.

March Course Week – Climate change: sustainability and resilience

Climate change is affecting the whole world, but at different speeds and with different risks. Low lying countries, for example, are more vulnerable than higher ones, while the impact of increased storm intensity will be disproportionate on countries that are already affected by hurricanes and typhoons.

The March week addressed urban resilience, with the studio project focused on the resilience of Singapore up to 2050 and beyond. Polly Turton of Arup helped with the project, and small teams focused on issues like sea-level rise and stormwater drainage, smart systems and transportation. The reviewers were Paul Davidson of BRE and Ian Cooper of Eclipse Research Consultants.

Rachel Warren from the Tyndall Centre at the University of East Anglia presented a detailed update about climate science and offered some startling facts and figures about what can be expected in the future, with even the most optimistic projections indicating serious impacts.

University speakers included Alan Short, Yeonseok Heo, and Maria Georgiadou, with other contributions from Judith Plummer about the plight of the developing world, and Keith Clarke of Forum for the Future who gave a very wide-ranging account of political and economic forces and the new thinking that is needed. Jim Platts spoke about his work in China to see bamboo used as an eco-friendly material for turbine blades, and Ro Randall and Andy Brown discussed personal motivation in relation to individuals and their response to climate change risks.

Interdisciplinary collaborations



Martin West from Cohort 20 and Joanne Barton from Cohort 21 have been working together on a project. Syndicate West, in which Martin is a principal, are lead designers for a delicate residential scheme proposed for a conservation area in Walthamstow. They needed the expertise of a Heritage consultant to inform the emerging design. Joanna works for Beacon Planning in Cambridge and the idea of working together came through their last IDBE studio project in the December course week.



Syndicate West recently submitted the scheme for planning approval and, if all goes to plan, they hope to start on site in the summer.

Applications for September 2015

Deadline 31 July, but earlier applications recommended.

IDBE team news

In January, Sebastian attended a scoping workshop on Low Carbon Cities in Chengdu, to establish a joint research agenda between the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and the National Science Foundation of China. The scale and pace of development in Chengdu is extraordinary, brought home at the Chengdu Planning Exhibition Hall where a model of the city 50 metres x 30 metres in size (see photo below) shows how it is due to grow still further.



His EC funded project setting up masters courses in the Ukraine on sustainable urban development is in its final year. In February, he visited the Prydniprovsk State Academy of Civil Engineering and Architecture in Dnipropetrovsk, to participate in a workshop, judge student coursework and hand out certificates. He gave a guest lecture on *Architecture: sustainability and value*.

In March, he visited the Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture (KNUCA) again reviewing student projects and handing out course certificates, as well as participating in the project workshop. Architecture is taught in the classical tradition, and the painting studio had the wonderful aroma of linseed oil!



An architecture studio in KNUCA

In April Ukrainians and European partners visited Cambridge for an intensive week, hosted by Dr John

Barber of King's and Sebastian. There were lectures about the city and the university including its expansion plans, and its outreach activities, and visits to King's College Chapel and Madingley Hall. Punting and a pub meal rounded off the complete Cambridge experience.



A lecture at the Institute of Continuing Education

Sebastian is one of the authors of a new Department of Health Technical Memorandum Making Energy Work in Healthcare (HTM 07-02) available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-energy-work-in-healthcare-htm-07-02>



Alice worked with co-author Peter Simmons, an environmental social scientist at the University of East Anglia, to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of how policies are implemented and their impact on sustainability within the built environment. Their paper 'Policies and outcomes for UK sustainable schools' has been published in the journal 'Building Research and Information', available at:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09613218.2015.1005518#.VNyhzy42XX8>

Alumni bursary fund

A big **thank-you** to alumni Terry Gilbert (cohort 11), Weng Kong (cohort 17), Bill Manion (cohort 18) and to the anonymous donors who have generously contributed to the new IDBE Alumni Bursary Fund. If you would like to donate you can do so on-line through the University's [philanthropy webpage](#) or by sending a cheque made out to the University of Cambridge to the Alumni Fund, IDBE office.