

Welcome to Cohort 20!

In September 2013 we welcomed our latest cohort of students, the twentieth group to start the IDBE course. For the first time ever, men are outnumbered by women on the course.



Pictured left to right – Zen, Ama, Tugo & Sara (Team Casement) hard at work in the architecture studio

And farewell to Cohort 18

The final course feast for Cohort 18 was held in July in St Catharine's College.



The July studio project was on the subject 'The challenge of 2050: how shall we live and work ...together?', and was led by Stephen Hill, director of C2O Futureplanners. With lectures on 'Planning for comfortable chaos...', '...disruptive citizens' and '...cities...on steroids...' (amongst many others) it was a very thought-provoking week. The students in this cohort are now writing up their theses. Some have been spotted staying at Wolfson College – escaping distractions to knuckle down to the task. Four theses have even been delivered in advance of the imminent deadline. Gold stars for Cham, Helen, Judith and Jason - and for Fred and Marco T who just got theirs in under the wire!

World Building of the Year Award 2013



*Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, New Zealand
Photo- John Gollings Photography*

Judith Schulz (cohort 18) was a fire engineer on the 'World building of the year'. Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki in New Zealand was designed in association with New Zealand studio Archimedia as an extension and refurbishment of the existing gallery, creating a new entrance and doubling the amount of flexible exhibition space. In her IDBE Case Study Judith wrote about the complexities of implementing fire engineering which had to be indiscernible to the visitor so as not to detract from the design ideals. Also on the shortlist for this prestigious award was the Halley IV Antarctic Research Station. This was the subject of our studio project in March 2011! We are lucky enough to have the British Antarctica Survey on our doorstep.

10th Chinese Urban Housing Conference

Martin Watson (cohort 18) has found success in the academic world having recently presented a paper in Shanghai on displaced communities in the UK. This was based on one of his IDBE essays. It attracted great interest and Martin received an honorary credential (1 of 5 best conference paper awards) from the Chinese government. They found his paper very relevant to their problems.



Martin receiving his award

Graduation – cohort 17

On Saturday 20th July cohort 17 processed from Wolfson College in their gowns for graduation at the Senate House. Huge congratulations to them all.



Rising Green Star Award 2013

Georgina Smit (cohort 19) received the Rising Green Star Award 2013 from the Green Building Council of South Africa at its #GBCRewire2013 conference. Congratulations Georgina!



Georgina receiving her award

IDBE@20 Symposium – Save the date!

In 1994 the course welcomed its very first cohort of students for a 2 week residential course. In September 2014 IDBE will be celebrating its 20 year anniversary. To mark this achievement we will be inviting alumni, current students and friends of the course to a Symposium on Saturday 20th September 2014 at Wolfson College. This will be followed by a dinner in the evening.

Alumni

Tony Ip (cohort 15) presented a paper, based partly on his IDBE thesis, for the Sustainable Building 2013 Hong Kong Regional Conference in September.



Tony presenting his paper

Tony has just started a 6-year part-time PhD at Hong Kong Polytechnic University where he will be developing the research he started on the IDBE course. His study topic is Urban Living with Sky Garden. He is very excited about taking on this challenge to continue his academic investigation and he hopes to contribute some ideas to improve urban living in high-rise contexts.

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Applications for September 2014 entry

Applications are now open. It's never too early to apply!



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