



International Federation of Landscape Architects
Fédération Internationale des Architectes Paysagistes

Newsletter

IFLA

No. 71

J u n e
2 0 0 7



info@iflaonline.org

 **IFLA website**
www.iflaonline.org

 **online journal**
www.iflajournal.org

IFLA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Diane MENZIES
commissioner.menzies@justice.govt.nz

Secretary General
Radmila FINGEROVA
secgen@iflaonline.org

Treasurer
James HAYTER
jhayter@oxigen.net.au

Vice-President
Americas Region
Darwina NEAL
darwina_neal@nps.gov

Vice-President
Asia/Pacific Region
Tong-Mahn AHN
ahnrm@snu.ac.kr

Vice-President
European Region
Teresa ANDRESEN
mlandres@fc.up.pt

Editor IFLA News
John CLEMENS
john.clemens@canterbury.ac.nz

Benchmark for a green Olympics

China has set a solid benchmark for providing a green Olympics for Beijing 2008, says IFLA President, Diane Menzies. In addition to a 680 ha Olympic Forest Park, the 1,215 ha green area in and around the Olympic zone includes the impressive new Bird's Nest National Stadium, the Olympics Sports Centre, the National Stadium, the National Indoor Stadium, the national hockey field, the National Tennis Centre, the Olympic village, and 20 other major Olympic venues.

Diane Menzies said the Beijing Olympic effort was the cream of global urban architectural construction and urban landscape planning. "I have been impressed with the outstanding planning, research and collaborative approach the Beijing people have taken to making this Beijing site sustainable. It is a sign of the times that organisers of major events like the Olympic Games are aware of the footprint they make and the Chinese people have set a new benchmark in this regard."

Chinese Landscape Society president Zhou Ganzhi said the 2008 Olympics will become the model of green Olympics. "What we have done is unprecedented. The greening of the park and the city are more important than building projects because they are more important for Beijing...there is no doubt that everyone supports the greening of the city. We are going to build a green city and enhance our city to a new level in the years to come which will benefit people's health and environment in this city."

In this issue

Benchmark for a green Olympics	Diane Menzies	1
2007 China Summit declaration		2
Report from the Beijing Summit	Virginia Laboranti	2
Impressions of Beijing	Alan Titchener	3
Landscape Architecture Month:		
Argentina, Peru, Bermuda, Mexico, South Africa, United States		4-6
Landscape Design in the 21st Century	Desiree Martínez & Darwina Neal	6-7
Martha Schwartz in Athens	Thanos Sklavenitis	8
New Zealand's Landscape Charter	Brad Coombs	9
Reports from the Middle East	Grant Donald	10
PARJAP Argentina 2007	Virginia Laboranti	11
44th IFLA World Congress	REGISTER NOW	12



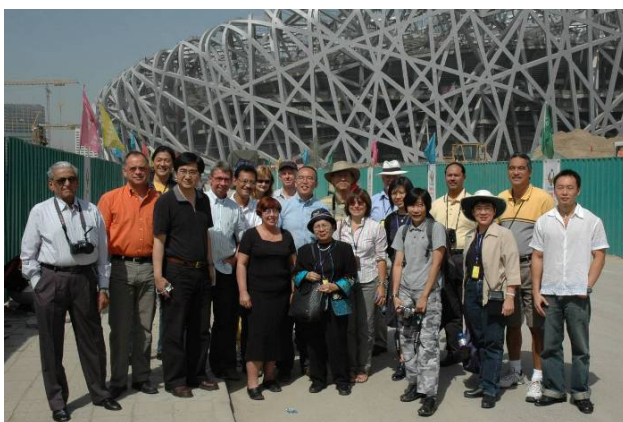
2007 China Landscape Architecture Summit: a new highlight in landscape architecture

Summit Declaration

Beijing, 14 May 2007

IFLA delegates representing landscape architects from 14 countries and regions across the Asian-Pacific, Americas and European Regions meeting at the 2007 China Landscape Architecture Summit recognise the contribution made to the Beijing Olympic Forest Park by the landscape architectural profession in China.

The 680 ha park is the largest in the city. It will contribute to sustainability, and is an evolving asset for the city. The massive "green lung" helps combat the human impact on the climate of Beijing. The economic benefit to the public can be seen in a new quality environment, which will be great for the athletes in the Olympic village and an amenity to everyday life for local residents in future years. Landscape architects have played the lead role in all aspects of the project. The Forest Park provides education for people of all ages: understanding plants as part of nature, the cultural context, and ecological technology, such as the collection and re-use of storm water and energy savings. As a garden setting for the Olympics, it will be the venue for events such as tennis, archery, and hockey, and will receive more than 40,000 visitors per day during the Games. The park is being developed as a natural extension of the city, a symbolic "return to nature."



IFLA delegates outside the Bird's Nest National Stadium

The Summit recommends:

- 1) That the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recognise the role of the Chinese Society of Landscape Architects (CHSLA) in making the 2008 Games environmentally enhanced, with future sustainability uppermost in mind, and that the IOC commend the CHSLA on their role and input for the 2008 Beijing Games.
- 2) That further publicity be encouraged and provided in helping the global community become aware of the Chinese landscape architectural profession's role in the development of the Beijing Olympic venue.
- 3) Based on the experience gained from CHSLA and the Chinese landscape architectural profession, that IFLA set a policy for all future major international sports events in terms of landscape architecture and make them a sustainable legacy.
- 4) That the findings and knowledge attained from this Summit and Olympic site visit be passed on to the IOC and to London Olympic landscape architects for their consideration.

Report from the Beijing Summit

Virginia Laboranti IFLA Representative Americas Region

From the 12th to the 27th May 2007, the IFLA World Executive Committee (ExCo) and delegates from the IFLA Asia-Pacific Region were invited by the Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture (CHASLA), the Urban Planning and Design Institute of Tsinghua University, and the School of Architecture, Tsinghua University to participate in the 2007 China Landscape Architecture Summit: A New Highlight in Landscape Architecture.



We were received and hosted at the Wofo Hotel, a former Buddhist monastery into the Beijing Botanic Garden. On the following day, the participants made a technical visit to the Olympic Forest Park, the Bird's Nest Stadium, and the Water Cube, which are being built at the moment. The 6.8 km² Forest Park is surrounded by residential areas, and a dynamic water reclamation and reuse system has been designed to replenish water to the city in dry seasons and help to discharge flood water in rainy ones. In addition, the Forest Park's road system is being built with permeable pavements to allow surface water to infiltrate the ground and to improve the quality of the water in the Park's lake. We were accompanied by some of the planners, led by the Chinese Delegate of IFLA, Professor Xiaoming Liu, and the Executive Director of Landscape Architecture, Planning & Design for the Beijing Olympic Forest Park, Professor Jie Hu, who made a very detailed explanation about the works. During the afternoon, we visited the Beihai Park.

The Summit sessions were opened at the Wofo Hotel on 14 May by the President of the Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture, Mr Ganzhi Zhou, the Vice-President of Tsinghua University, Mr Fengchang Zhang, and IFLA President, Diane Menzies. Several of those who had taken part in the development of the Olympic Forest Park spoke about its different perspectives: ecological, cultural, recreational, and economic. We agreed that the construction of this park will be a landmark to landscape architecture in China and all over the world. The park design uses the best of the old and newer techniques of construction, and takes into account the ways of thinking, living, and the beliefs of its own people. In fact, Chinese landscape architects are making new parks with their own identity.

On the following days there were several visits to the Forbidden City, the Huangchenggen Heritage Park, the Beitucheng Park, the Summer Palace, The Tsinghua University Campus and the Beijing Forestry University. These two important universities were the venues for IFLA President, Diane Menzies, to make very well received presentations to an unusually large number of students, professors, and practitioners. President Diane Menzies also presided at the IFLA World ExCo and supported the Asia-Pacific Region meetings. During the Summit, Mohd Fadrihah Mohd Taib and Charles Teo from Malaysia formally announced the next IFLA World Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 27-30 August 2007.

Those officiating at the ExCo meeting were President, Diane Menzies (New Zealand), Treasurer, James Hayter (Australia), Vice-President for Asia-Pacific Region, Professor Tong Mahn Ahn (Korea), Secretary General, Radmila Fingerova (Czech Republic), the Representative for the European Region, Professor Fritz Auweck

(Germany), and the Representative for the Americas Region, Virginia Laboranti (Argentina). The Asia-Pacific Regional meeting was chaired by Vice-President Professor Tong Mahn Ahn and was attended by President, Diane Menzies, James Hayter, Treasurer, Professor Dr Mustafa Kamal Bin Mohd Shariff (Malaysia), Secretary, Professor Prabhakar B Bhagwat (India), Professor Xiaoming Liu (China), Professor Leslie Chen (China Hong Kong), Dr Jusna M Amin (Indonesia), Mohd Fadrihah Mohd Taib (Malaysia), Alan Titchener (New Zealand), Efren Aurelio (Philippine), Tay Bee Choo (Singapore), and Dr Ariya Aruninta (Thailand).

All the IFLA members who were invited to the Summit would like to give our most sincere thanks to our Chinese colleagues for the invitation, the warmth of the welcome, and the marvellous moments lived in Beijing.

Impressions of Beijing

Alan Titchener IFLA Representative (New Zealand)

Guests of the Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture (CHSLA) and the Urban Planning and Design Institute of Tsinghua University attending the Summit were taken on a technical excursion to the sites of some of the facilities for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Originally the site of the main tree nursery for Beijing, the Olympic Forest Park is centred on a principal axis which runs through to Tiananmen Square in the heart of the city. Aligned with the same axis is the site for a grassed outdoor auditorium for outdoor concerts (with a seating capacity for 40,000 people), a lake (to be fed with re-cycled and filtered water), and a reasonably large, forested hill (constructed using the material excavated for the creation of the lake). At the top of the hill is a viewing area from which can be seen many of the various arenas in which the Olympics will be held.

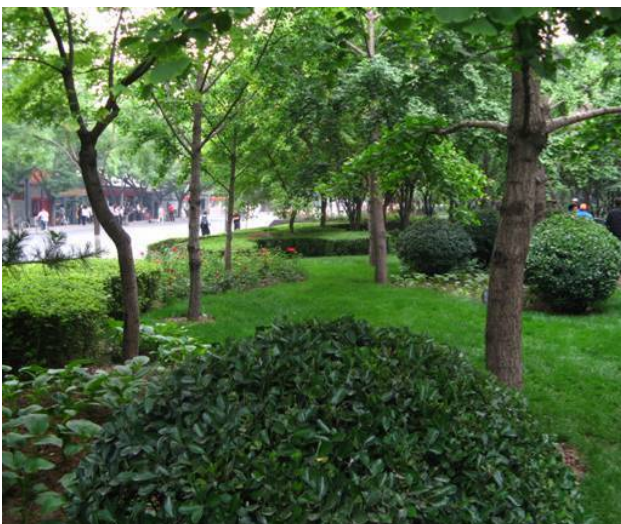
There was no doubting the scale and complexity of the project. The Project Manager, Professor Hu, explained on site some of the design issues that had needed to be overcome, including the talcum powder-like nature of the loessal soil used in the construction of the hill, which necessitated the installation of an intricate high-tech drainage, irrigation and water-retention system. Hundreds of thousands of semi-mature trees (3-6 m high) have



been planted at around 2 m spacing for immediate effect. Considerable effort has been made to achieve a naturalistic appearance to the forest in the selection and placement of trees, which were pretty well exclusively species native to China. Although the project is by no means completed, the consensus of delegates attending the Summit was that the creation of the Forest Park was a great credit to those involved and clearly demonstrated the expertise and capacity of the profession in China.

We were also taken to see some park developments where generally quite narrow, say, 10-15 m wide, but often quite extensive (in one case a couple of kilometres long) green corridors had been created as both pedestrian thoroughfares and passive recreation places. The quality of design and implementation was generally good and there was a noticeable commitment to high quality aftercare and maintenance. An apparent freedom from vandalism allows designers to incorporate elements that would not be practicable in many other countries. Small wetland gardens were being included in designs to help filter and re-cycle water, and everywhere there were references to traditional Chinese architecture and culture, typically expressed in a contemporary fashion.

Chinese authorities are increasingly convinced of the value of landscape architects. The combination of increasing expertise, gathering critical mass, and significant available resources seems likely to ensure that China will soon be at the forefront of the profession internationally, if it is not there already.



A Beijing green corridor

Extracts from *Impressions of Beijing* by Alan Titchener [<http://www.nzila.co.nz/newsletters/autumn2007.htm>]

World Landscape Architecture Month

ARGENTINA

Virginia Laboranti, Vice-President CAAP

Owing to the many events programmed for World Landscape Architecture Month – some of which were foreshadowed in IFLA News No. 70 - activities began in March with keynote presentations by Robert Mortensen, former President of ASLA, and CAAP acting for the first time as jury at the 8th Pilar Style 2007 Fair. CAAP organized and supported many activities that included tree planting, and the signing of two important agreements (the Act of Creation of the ICOMOS/IFLA Committee of Argentina, and the CAAP/ FADEA [Argentine Federation of Architect Entities] Agreement). We also celebrated the signing of the Bachelorship Registration with the Professional Council of Architecture and Urbanism (CPAU) in Buenos Aires, and the publication *Origin of the Arborization in the City of Buenos Aires* at the Botanical Garden. At the close, the Argentine Society of Architects (SCA), Martha Marengo, and Marta Ibarborde, former Presidents and, at present, Honorary Presidents of CAAP, and Virginia Laboranti, CAAP Vice-President, spoke about the importance of IFLA and its activities all over the world. The signing of an agreement between CAAP and SCA was announced. Significantly, three of the most important newspapers in Argentina *La Nación*, *Clarín*, and *The Buenos Aires Herald* published articles about CAAP members and news about the events of the World Month, and several radio and TV programs did the same. We consider that the World Landscape Architecture Month has been very useful and successful and we are looking forward to celebrating it from now on. Our congratulations and thanks to IFLA EXCO for such an interesting idea.

PERU

Virginia Laboranti also passed on news from APP (Peru) President Carmen Iberico about events taking place in Peru. APP celebrated World Landscape Architecture Month in conjunction with their National Tree Day on 18 April 2007. The Municipality of Miraflores in a joint event with the Floralties Plant Club invited several schools of the city to participate in a tree planting. Twenty trees were planted in a new park to be inaugurated the following week. The Mayor of Miraflores, the President of Floralties Plant Club, and Carmen Iberico, as a member of the Municipality staff and APP President, were present. They all spoke with feeling. Carmen also announced that Cora Burgin from CAAP (Argentina) would be coming to Peru to teach a seminar about green roofs.



BERMUDA

Sarah Vallis Pietila, President BALA

The Bermuda Association of Landscape Architects (BALA) carried out a tree planting of two of our endemic trees: Bermuda cedar (*Juniperus bermudana*) and olivewood (*Cassine lanceanum*) in one of Bermuda's protected Parks on 26 April in recognition of Fredrick Law Olmstead and World Landscape Architecture Month.

MEXICO

Desiree Martínez, President SAPM

On 19 April the book *Places and Spaces, Mexican Landscape Architecture*, the first publication of the Mexican Association of Landscape Architects (SAPM), was presented at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Two days later members of SAPM with students and educators of the landscape architecture program of the University took a guided tour of the former pre-Hispanic botanical garden of King Netzahualcoyotl at the Tetzcotzinco. The architect and historian Ramón Cruces Carvajal enriched the tour with invaluable information.



At the Queen's Pool of the former botanical garden of King Netzahualcoyotl overlooking the Mexico Valley

SOUTH AFRICA

Bernadette Vollmer, President ILASA

I would like to tell you about the activities that we undertook or are undertaking here in South Africa. The Institute of Landscape Architecture of South Africa (ILASA) was invited by the University of Pretoria to form a partnership in promoting the profession predominantly to scholars. Through a series of workshops a "toolkit" was established, and a brochure and poster that describe the profession and where one can study the course is going to print. ILASA hosted a session with students who are currently enrolled at the University of Pretoria to begin to establish a better relationship with them. This session was endorsed by a seed planting session (all indigenous tree species) to make the students more aware of the uniqueness of the profession. We hope to plant them out into a landscape where there is a shortage of trees!

UNITED STATES

Patrick A Miller, FASLA

A record number of ASLA Chapters participated in Landscape Architecture Month 2007. In honor of National Landscape Architecture Month, more than 40 state chapters of the American Society of Landscape Architects planned, organized, and publicized events in their local communities.

This year's theme, Discover Careers in Landscape Architecture, encouraged ASLA members to reach out to school aged children to help promote the profession and the fun work that landscape architects do. Eleven chapters were honored at the ASLA Midyear Meeting for their exceptional work on their April events. Below are some of the highlights of those activities.

- Arkansas Chapter: Students for Environmental Sustainability group at University of Arkansas celebrated Earth Day by planting trees at the Willow Heights subsidized housing complex in Fayetteville with the help of several young residents. An elementary school presentation including coloring books to be incorporated into the art curriculum, and to use when the students design their own park.
- Hawaii Chapter: prepared the presentation *Design with Nature* in outreach to a native Hawaiian language immersion school's graduating class to steer students to becoming environmental stewards of Hawaii through a career in landscape architecture.
- Illinois Chapter: planted one or two trees at each of 50 selected schools around Chicago in the 50 Trees for 50 Schools event in collaboration with the City of Chicago, including an educational session targeting fourth-grade students about how to care for trees and the outdoor environment.
- Iowa Chapter: took on the very ambitious plan of *30 Days of Landscape Architecture*: a landscape architecture related event every day throughout the month; events included a gardening activity for young gardeners, an Arbor Day celebration, a garden railroad display in a children's garden, an edible mushroom presentation at the Iowa Arboretum, a program at Grimes Farm & Conservation Center, where preschoolers and adults could explore nature's wonders, and an Iowa State University student temporary garden installation.



A cooperative exercise: tracing the site plan for the City of Coeur d'Alene dog park

- Idaho/Montana Chapter: Worked with a class of advanced learning fourth- and fifth-grade students to design a dog park for the City of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, in weekly interactions over more than two months, culminating in the students presenting their project to the school board and to the Coeur d'Alene city council.
- Minnesota Chapter: prepared a site design and patio installation for Lao America Cultural Center with a team of students and professionals; participated in a streetscape design and community mural for the Standish-Ericsson neighborhood.
- San Diego Chapter: participated in a Boy Scout Fair where they offered partial Landscape Architecture Merit Badges to more than 60 young scouts, passed out *Landscape Architecture* magazines, and showed a career discovery DVD, in addition to visiting middle and high schools around San Diego County to present information on the profession.
- Southern California Chapter: worked on a year-long program with Orville Wright Middle School where they started by teaching an art class to design a park, and broke ground on one design, which was installed over three weekends, this effort being coordinated with LAUSD, and funds having been donated from the mayor along with free trees from the LA Conservation Authority; participated in annual career days at intermediate schools and participated in the Beverly Hills Earth Day event.

Landscape Design in the 21st Century

Reports from the IFLA Regional Conference of the Americas & 5th SAPM National Congress on Landscape Architecture

Desiree Martínez

President SAPM, Mexico IFLA Delegate

IFLA's Regional Conference of the Americas and the 5th National Congress on Landscape Architecture of the Mexican Society of Landscape Architects (SAPM) took place in Mexico City on 24-27 May 2007, at the Camino Real Hotel Anzures, the work of Legorreta, one of Mexico's most recognized contemporary architects.

Almost 300 participants came from all over the country (from Mexicali and Monterrey, through Los Cabos and San Luis Potosí, to Tuxtla Gutiérrez and Playa del Carmen), from the whole Region (from Canada to Brazil and Argentina), and from other parts of the world, like Germany, Japan and the Czech Republic.

Martha Delgado, Secretary for the Environment of the Mexico City government, inaugurated the event and pointed out the intention of the new government to turn Mexico City into one of the greenest cities of Latin America. The excellent keynote speakers talked on different approaches to the conference theme, Landscape Design in the 21st Century. To start, Mark Treib (USA) highlighted *Goodness* in contemporary landscape design through examples that revealed the tendencies of this new millennium. Fernando Chacel (Brazil) focused on the restoration of degraded ecosystems, presenting projects in Brazil that combined the vision of landscape ecology with aesthetic solutions. Mario Schjetnan talked of the importance of designing with and around the element *Water*, showing examples of his own projects. Kongjiang Yu (China) showed the difference between dead, ornamental landscapes and living, productive landscapes that are used by people. Thorbjörn Andersson (Sweden) showed examples of the different tendencies in European landscape design.



Finally, the conference culminated with the presentation by Diane Menzies, IFLA President (New Zealand), who talked on the deep spiritual sense of landscape as a part of our culture and of our being.

The general lectures touched on the different issues facing the profession, such as sustainability, green infrastructure, water management, and historical and aesthetic issues in the landscape, every intervention contributing towards the panorama of how the profession is evolving in Mexico and within the region. Very important was the participation of Arturo Aispuro, Mexico City's Secretary of Urban Development and Housing, who not only strengthened the intention of the City Government to enhance quality of life through a restoration of public space, but also signed an agreement with SAPM in order to start developing strategies together to implement this objective.

The education and cultural landscape working groups had also positive results during their sessions. Several groups participated in the students' charette working on alternatives for *Urban Ecotourism*. First place went to Li Sun and Kun Luo from the Nanking Arts Institute, Summit College (China), in second place stood Mexico with the proposal of Valentín Silva from the National Autonomous University of Mexico, and the third place was Shwetal Bharat Kadam and Shweta V. Kumar from the Department of Landscape Architecture, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi (India).

During the technical tours the works of Barragán, father of Mexican contemporary landscape architecture, were visited, in addition to the restored Chapultepec Park, Mexico's most emblematic green area, and other examples of green spaces designed to solve the challenges of the new century, like Tecnoparque and Xochitla.

At the end of the event SAPM's Executive Committee changed, the new President Laura Alonso assuming her charge. SAPM is sure that this event can be considered a turning point in the development of the profession in Mexico, as well as for the association itself since we could summon plenty of interested people from all over the country and the region as well as students and professionals in landscape architecture to participate in the event. On the other hand we were able to consolidate serious commitments with the local and federal government in search of *greener* solutions in Mexico City and all over the country. Another very important achievement was to strengthen links with all representatives of IFLA's region. *As together we are strong*, we visualize a very positive future for our profession and for IFLA.

Conference summary highlights

Darwina L Neal, FASLA

IFLA Americas Region Vice-President

SAPM organized an excellent Conference with world-class speakers. The theme, Landscape Design in the 21st Century, was well-addressed by award-winning local and international landscape architects from three IFLA Regions who presented a wide range of design and landscape conservation solutions and concerns.

Some words of wisdom gleaned from the conference speakers were:

- Think *globally* in regard to air, water, and resource issues, but act *locally* to respect local resource conditions and cultural values, including the "*spirit of place*".
- Landscape architects are *creation professionals* who need to develop a new *ecological aesthetic*.
- We need to develop *stewardship-based* design solutions to create *sustainable ecosystems*.
- Cities need to grow inward to reuse abandoned industrial areas.
- The city should be a *work of art* – we need to incorporate the *art of landscape* in urban settings.
- Landscape architects need to practice the *art of survival* - to reclaim the relationship between land and people.
- Last, we need to establish protective government policies and codify management practices to preserve and maintain landscapes, both natural and cultural.

The foundation for accomplishing all of these efforts is *education*:

- By strengthening and advancing the education, practice and awareness of landscape architecture as a profession and encouraging more people to become landscape architects. *There's strength in numbers!*
- By educating government officials and the public about the *value added* by landscape architects and their work.

The Conference organized by SAPM definitely advanced those goals. And SAPM earned well-deserved thanks from the Americas Region and all attendees for all of their heroic efforts to organize such a successful meeting. Special congratulations and many thanks are due to SAPM President Desiree Martinez, Vice-President and President-Elect Laura Alonzo, and Treasurer and Past-President Alfonso Muray and all other SAPM members, volunteers and students who made the meeting such a wonderful educational and social experience for everyone.



Martha Schwartz speaks in Athens

Thanos Sklavenitis
President, PHALA

On 4 May 2007, Professor Martha Schwartz gave a lecture in Athens on her recent work at the invitation of the Panhellenic Association of Landscape Architects (PHALA) and the Benaki Museum. The lecture was so inspiring that the amphitheatre of 500 people was full and there were still people standing in the auditorium. Professor Schwartz spoke about an extensive range from her recent work. The lecture was divided in two sections.

In the first part of the lecture, Martha spoke about the role of the landscape architect. At present there seems to be a lack of landscape architects with good design skills. The design of the environment is the single most important task facing landscape architects in the 21st century because the quality of people's existence will depend on their design decisions. Beauty and cultural relevance create sustainability and positive economic value to cities. Visual quality, unlike that of air and water, cannot be easily quantified or reduced to a bottom line value.

The visual quality of the built environments affects people, and a degraded visual environment affects people negatively. The big questions are: How practical is it to live and work in visual degraded places? How practical is it to make an ugly world?

In the second part of the lecture, Martha presented examples of her work, including Grand Canal Square in Dublin's dockland development, Fryston Village, West Yorkshire, England, the atria of Barclay's Bank Headquarters at Canary Wharf in the London Docklands, Coventry City and Exchange Squares, also in England, and the Mesa Art and Entertainment Centre in Arizona.

Conclusively this was a major event and indeed a milestone in presenting landscape architecture projects of a high design standard to the Greek public. It has initiated an educational process that PHALA intends to develop with a series of lectures from international landscape architects to boost the profession and inform the public and private sector.



"...the amphitheatre of 500 people was full and there were still people standing in the auditorium"



New Zealand's Landscape Charter

Brad Coombs **Executive member NZILA**

Even the most spectacular landscapes are under pressure from development for residential, infrastructure, energy generation and transmission, and other forms of domestication. The New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects (NZILA), as custodians of some of the world's most recognised landscapes are taking steps to guide the management and protection of New Zealand's landscapes in a sustainable manner.

After receiving some guiding words from New Zealand's Minister for the Environment, the NZILA have embarked on drafting a Landscape Charter that will provide a statement of the Institute's philosophy with respect to the values that are recognised as being important to the landscapes of the small island nation: renowned, celebrated, and much visited for its natural landscapes.

NZILA participated in the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) Landscape Charter conference in Melbourne in October 2006. Executive Member Brad Coombs attended the conference on behalf of the NZILA, and joined speakers Joe Brown, Allen Kearns, Peter Timms, and Jennifer Neales in setting the scene for the development of the AILA Charter. Both NZILA and AILA benefited greatly from the exchange, and AILA have made strong progress in developing their own landscape charter.

A panel of experienced landscape architects has been drawn together to set out a function and a structure for the charter: to formulate a process by which the charter will be drafted and ratified by NZILA members. The Charter drafting group met late last year; a broader group of landscape architects has agreed to review and provide input to the draft.

The Charter was the topic of a well attended workshop at the NZILA National Conference in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand in April 2007. The workshop provided valuable membership feedback and highlighted a number of issues that can be incorporated into the charter. AILA reciprocated the earlier exchange in Melbourne by sending two AILA delegates to the NZILA workshop.

The charter drafting group developed the outline of a structure for the NZILA charter, under headings of biophysical components (geological, hydrological, and ecological health of the landscape), human health and well-being (human interactions with the landscape), and place making (the designed elements).

Sustainability aspects are recognised in New Zealand's landscapes within the legislation that manages them. Accordingly, sustainability will be woven into each part of the Charter. Issues that are specific to New Zealand, such as the existing planning legislation, key governmental departments, including the Ministry for the Environment, and guiding documents, such as the Treaty of Waitangi, the Urban Design Protocol, the Biodiversity Strategy, and any relevant National Policy Statements, are all being considered in the development of the Charter.

The NZILA Landscape Charter will present the Institute's position on issues relating to landscape management and change, advocating the wise use and management of the landscapes of New Zealand. The NZILA are taking the lead in guiding the New Zealand government and the managers of our landscapes in the appropriate use and management of one of our best recognised resources.



New Zealand: as in many other countries, a landscape under pressure of development



Grant Donald reports from the Middle East

A new landscape architectural association in Dubai

Monday 21 May 2007. Last night marked the inaugural meeting of a landscape architectural association in Dubai. Ninety-seven people from over 33 companies from as far a field as Abu Dhabi and Sharjah met at the Airport Meridian. This first meeting, co-chaired by Grant Donald and Jenny Young, was held specifically to gain support for such an association and to highlight issues that need to be addressed by the group in order to become recognised globally and locally. Landscape architects at the meeting were members of seven different global landscape associations and represented over 15 different nationalities. Representatives from the local and federal government, as well as the media, also attended.

Major issues raised included the uniqueness of the Dubai professional sphere and of the local design and construction industry as a whole. Coupled with the fact that the professionals working in this area are somewhat itinerant, and that local nationals would represent a very small part of a specific landscape architectural association, this would make a local association different from any other in the world. These three factors along with processes and methods that would be required to become a legal entity in the United Arab Emirates were also discussed.



A testing physical environment adds to the unique challenge of establishing the new botanic garden in the Emirate of Sharjah

Consideration was given to acting outside the commonly accepted norms for an association, and to a possible need to look at a unique way of driving this body forward. General discussion raised the possibility that the association should not represent landscape architects alone, but should look at a wider landscape community with a sphere of influence not specifically limited to Dubai but to the region as a whole, specifically targeting the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

A Working Group was formed to consolidate issues relating to:

- Goals and objectives of the Association
- Membership
- Processes required for the formulation of a recognised body
- Education and marketing opportunities
- Structure of the organisation

...and a new Quranic botanic garden in the Emirate of Sharjah

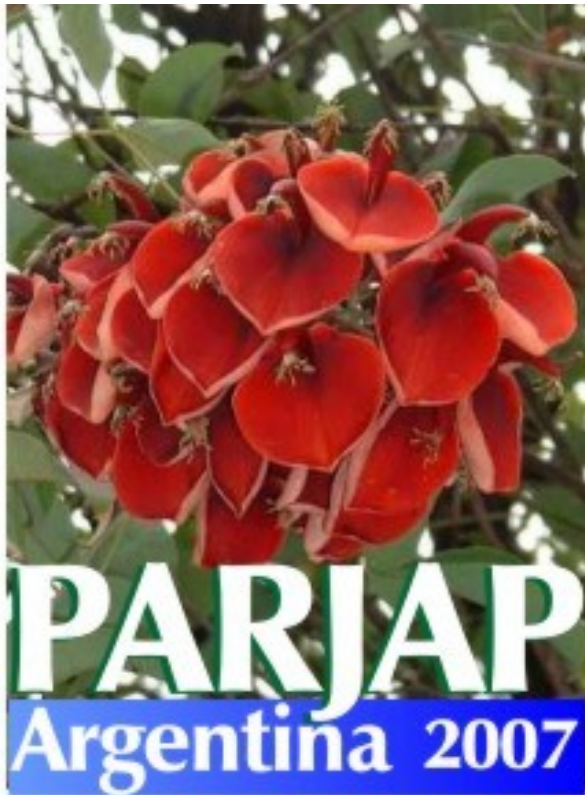
On the weekend of the 4-5 May, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) held an advisory committee meeting in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for the development of a Quranic botanic garden in the Emirate of Sharjah. As part of this event a committee of international experts from around the globe, including botanists, historians, experts in Shari'a and Islamic studies, and representatives from UNESCO, ICOMOS, and Grant Donald from IFLA, ran a two day workshop formulating strategies, plant lists, and botanic requirements for the garden. The Ruler of Sharjah, Highness Dr Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, opened the advisory committee workshop, which had representatives from over 15 countries developing methodologies and criteria in three working groups: botanic content, landscape layout, and educational and research facilities.

One outcome of the workshop was an international competition to develop a master plan for a botanical garden based on the regional garden cultures of the region to preserve ex situ the regional flora of the Arabian Peninsula. This will be judged by a UNESCO expert panel in June.

The Sharjah Botanic Garden will be the first in a series of Quranic botanic gardens throughout the Middle East with at least another 5-6 already on the drawing board. This initiative is seen as a way of getting main stream Islamic principles and philosophies to the masses, and making the words of the Quranic verses available to non-Muslims thus using landscapes and gardens to convey religious, cultural and philosophical messages.



First Forum: PARJAP



Argentina 2007

The Fifth Ibero-American Congress of Parks and Public Gardens - PARJAP ARGENTINA 2007 - will take place between the 5th and the 8th of November 2007 in San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina.

As part of the preparation for this meeting, and against the spectacular backdrop of the Yungas, the First Forum for PARJAP ARGENTINA 2007 recently took place in the University residences of Horco Molle at the National University of Tucumán.

The Forum was organized by the Organising Committee of the 5th Ibero-American Congress of Parks and Public Gardens, constituted by the schools and professionals of the Architecture and Engineering colleges of Tucumán, and presided over by industrial engineer Eduardo Costa. Also enriching the meeting were architect Horacio Pucheta Lascano, who is Parks Department Head of the Municipality of Córdoba, and Agronomic Engineer Gabriela Benito from the Faculty of Agronomy at the University of Buenos Aires, who is Technical Director of Green Spaces for the City of Buenos Aires.

Given the importance of green public spaces, the group of experts recognised the need to summon different institutions and individuals - professional colleges, members of the Government, schools, non-government organisations (ONGs), neighbours and friends of public spaces, and all those interested in green areas - to evaluate what is to be done in the different sectors involved, the objective being to create an environment in which to elaborate a Green Directory Plan for our city and region.

The Forum was a great concurrence of the Organising Committee with approximately twenty other organisations. Those present included municipal and provincial employees, staff of the National University of San Miguel de Tucumán (UNT), professional schools, ONGs related to the atmosphere, experts in green areas, members of the Ministry of Production, and investigators of the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) and urban planning. Proposals, concepts and projects were discussed with an emphasis on the social responsibility of improving the situation of our society through green spaces. Many subjects were discussed, which included:

- the importance of urban trees, the forest and its protection for the society and environment, reforestation with suitable species;
- the rehabilitation of large areas and spaces suitable to become green areas, e.g. the banks of the Salí River;
- norms that should apply to the protection of natural areas, and landscape policy and planning.

In closing, a commitment was made to have a second forum in September, at which different municipalities should work towards the design of a Green Directory Plan with a deep undercurrent of citizen participation and environmental management, addressing Agenda 21 and setting the foundations of the "Argentina Association of Parks and Public Gardens".

PARJAP ARGENTINA 2007 - The Fifth Ibero-American Congress of Parks and Public Gardens, 5-8 November 2007 in San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina.

Further information at:
parjap@parjapargentina.com.ar

Web page: www.parjapargentina.com.ar

Secretary: Rivadavia 179 3rd Floor Phone/Fax:
54381 4227082



Malaysia welcomes the world to the 44th IFLA 2007 World Congress

Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC)
Kuala Lumpur, 27-30 August 2007

Further information at: <http://www.ifla2007.com> for Congress information, registration & hotel bookings

IFLA 2007 World EXCO & Council Meeting (for IFLA EXCO & Council Members ONLY)
Shangri-La Hotel, Putrajaya, 24-26 August 2007

IFLA2007 Student Charette and International Student Design Competition
D-Ark Resort, Janda Baik, Pahang, 24-26 August 2007

Congress Registration Form – Closing Date : 31st July 2007

大会登録申込用紙 استمارة تسجيل القمة

PERSONAL PARTICULARS

Name	(Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms)	ILAM No (for ILAM members)	
Organization		Designation	
Address			
Country/State		Postal Code	
Telephone No.		Fax No.	
Mobile No (essential for updates via sms)			
Email (essential for updates)			
Passport No/MyKad No			

Category	Rate	Total (USD)
International Participant	USD 500	
ASEAN Participant*	USD 450	
Congress Fees Inclusive of : <i>4 Days Congress & Congress Kit; Tea Break & Lunch; 3 Technical Visits; Gala Dinner & Mayor's Dinner</i>		

Category	Rate	Total (RM)
ILAM Member/ Government Dept.	RM 1,200	
Non ILAM Member	RM 1,350	
Congress Fees Inclusive of : <i>4 Days Congress & Congress Kit; Tea Break & Lunch; 3 Technical Visits; Gala Dinner & Mayor's Dinner</i>		

International Student**	USD 200	
Congress Fees Inclusive of : <i>4 Days Congress & Congress Kit</i>		

Local Student	RM 350	
Congress Fees Inclusive of : <i>4 Days Congress & Congress Kit</i>		

Accompanying Person	USD 300	
Congress Fees Inclusive of : <i>2 Days City Tour; 3 Technical Visits; Gala Dinner & Mayor's Dinner</i>		
GRAND TOTAL		

GRAND TOTAL		
--------------------	--	--

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANT

NOTE:

* ASEAN Countries: Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Brunei, Philippines, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, & Vietnam

** For registering students, a copy of your student identification card is required upon registration.

- Please refer to the Participant Entitlement section (see website) for full details of the fees covered.

**TECHNICAL VISITS**

(Choose any one of the visits available on each Technical Visit session)

28 August 2007	Technical Visit 1 (Putrajaya) : <i>(Please ✓ select one in this section)</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV01: Putrajaya Wetlands
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV02: Putrajaya Botanical Gardens
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV03: Putrajaya Agricultural Heritage Park
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV04: Putrajaya Urban Landscape Tour 1
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV05: Putrajaya Urban Landscape Tour 2
29 August 2007	Technical Visit 2 (Kuala Lumpur) : <i>(Please ✓ select one in this section)</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV06: Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM)
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV07: Kuala Lumpur Heritage Trail 1
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV08: Kuala Lumpur Heritage Trail 2
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV09: Petronas Twin Towers & KLCC Development
	<input type="checkbox"/> TV10: Sentul Urban Renewal Project & Sentul Park Development
31 August 2007	Special Tour (Optional)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 50th National Day Parade at Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur

* Please note that each visit has a maximum capacity. Upon reaching the maximum capacity, we reserve the right to transfer the delegate to the next available technical tour. Reservation is on a first-come-first served basis.

PAYMENT SUMMARY

Congress Participation Fees	USD _____ / RM _____
Credit Card Charges (5%)	USD _____ / RM _____
TOTAL PAYABLE AMOUNT	USD _____ / RM _____

GRAND TOTAL	
--------------------	--

PAYMENT METHODS**1. Cheque**

Cheque Number		Bank / Branch	
---------------	--	---------------	--

* Only cheques drawn from Malaysian banks are acceptable.

* Please make cheque payable to: **ILAM IFLA 2007**

* Kindly indicate your name and contact numbers on the reverse side of your cheque.

2. Telegraphic Transfer

Please TT to the bank account below and fax the form to the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) at +603-8943 6761

• A/C Name : **ILAM IFLA 2007**

• A/C No : **1215-0010791-05-2**

• Bank Address :

CIMB Bank, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Ground Floor, Block B, Bangunan Pusat Pelajar UPM, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

3. Credit Card VISA Master Card

Cardholder's Name			
Card /Bank Name		Expiry Date	
Credit Card Number		CVV Code <i>(Last 3 digit no at the rear of the card)</i>	
Cardholder's Signature		Date	