

## FOREWORD

**In line with its mission of being the leading institution in improving quality of life through the built environment, the UP College of Architecture is launching this first issue of its college journal that highlights the findings of recently completed research projects.**

The UP College of Architecture is gearing towards the delivery of architectural courses through the laboratory or studio mode. Comprised of both physical and non-physical components, a laboratory is a facility that collectively provides a venue for the generation of new knowledge. This makes possible the integration of the academic, research, and extension programs of the college. With the laboratory set-up, the learning process is facilitated through the research extension works and vice-versa. It is also in line with this goal that the college has documented part of the various laboratory-initiated symposia which were conducted in the semester that passed. Proceedings of these symposia now form part of the laboratories' knowledge repositories from which full-blown research could take off.

On October 5, 1999, a symposium conducted by the College on "Innovative Technologies for Low-Cost Housing," was participated in by members of the academe, manufacturers of non-conventional construction materials, subdivision developers, government agency representatives and both UP and non-UP students. The symposium

started with the presentation of Archt. Ma. Cristina Turalba and Archt. Amado Q. Viray, Jr. of the technical, social, and institutional issues related to the provision of socialized housing. After which, manufacturers presented alternative technologies such as: the solid concrete panel of Vazbuilt Building System Corporation, the sandwich panel system of Victoria Wave, Limited, Inc., the solid concrete blocks of Phinma Property Holding Corporation, the steel framing and metal cladding of Jacinto Builder's Systems, Inc. and the plastic components of Royal Ventures Construction and Development, Inc.

The government procedural systems that were developed to accommodate new technology were presented by the Accreditation of Innovative Technology (AITECH) Committee and the Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (CIAP). The National Housing Authority and members of Task Force Arki, a college-based student organization, also presented specific projects showcasing the use of new materials.

As a follow-up activity, the College offered to senior students a summer workshop entitled Arch 56: Evaluation of Architectural Design, which provided opportunities for the students and faculty to come up with designs for low-cost housing units collaboratively with manufacturers of new technology. The workshop aimed at merging the manufacturer's technical orientation with socio-cultural and institutional concerns.

As a prelude to the design stage that yielded concepts for two-storey and medium rise models, students went on site and plant visits. Among the places visited were the De la Costa Housing Project in Marikina City and the manufacturing plants of Vazbuilt and James Hardie Building Products.

The symposium on "Environmental Security" came as an aftermath of a series of man-made and natural calamities that claimed human lives and, as a consequence, questioned the integrity of the government's procedures for issuing permits and clearances to build and develop lands.

On July 30, 1999, the College hosted a roundtable discussion on "The Evolving Role of Public Markets" to bring to fore the various intermingling issues that affect the future of public markets and market cooperatives. The discussion focused on the plight of Quinta Public Market in Quiapo, Manila, as a case study.

Mr. Reynaldo Manahan and Mr. William Magno, officers of the Quiapo Public Market Development Cooperative (QPMDC), gave a brief history of the cooperative, which highlighted the socio-economic changes that have taken place at the Quinta Public Market. They pointed out that the developments around the market, particularly the sprouting of supermarkets, shopping malls and groceries, have threatened their livelihood. In addition to this, the City of Manila has initiated moves to privatize its public markets to increase its revenues and divest itself of the burden of administering the city's public markets. Prof. Mary Anne Espina of the UP College of Architecture, then reported on the Quinta Public Market's

present physical conditions, its importance as a historic and cultural center, and its potentials for becoming a revitalized shopping node.

Invited panelists who reacted on the presentations were Dr. Eufrazio C. Abaya, Professor of Anthropology, UP College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, Dr. Elvira Zamora, Dean, UP College of Business Administration, Mr. Blas Viterbo, Mr. Deo Custodio and Ms. Shiela Bazar, representatives of the College of Law Office of Legal Aid, Dr. Angelito Manalili, Head, Community Development Department, College of Social Work and Community Development, Mr. Candelario L. Versoza, Jr., Director, Cooperative Development Authority, Mr. Ed Virtudes, Chairman, National Market Vendors Confederation of Cooperatives, Atty. Pedro A. Bautista, OIC, Market Administration Office, Office of the City Administration of Manila, Mr. Carolina B. Batallones, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, and Dr. Virginia A. Teodosio, Director, Center for Labor Justice, School of Labor and Industrial Relations.

The symposium ended with identifying a set of principles, on the redevelopment of public markets, among which are: that the economic sustainability of both local government units and public market cooperatives are important for the survival of each; that the public markets need to redefine their role in society and develop their places as centers of culture and socialization in a town or city; and that modernization and revitalization of our public markets are necessary and inevitable if they are to remain operationally viable and attractive to the public as a shopping destination.

A series of Landscape Architecture lectures were held weekly from 16 July to 2 October 2000, attended mostly by LA students from all levels. Acknowledged experts in this field formed the roster of speakers

The first speaker, Dolly Q. Perez, talked on "Recreating Paradise through Landscape Architecture." Related to this, she cited her experiences while working on the recreation of Luneta park early on in her career. The second part of her session was a workshop where she asked students to present pollution abatement strategies. "Landscape Maintenance," was tackled by Dr. Norberto Mailum, a noted horticulturist. Dr. Mailum presented details on how plants, particularly trees, can be protected. Mark Philpott of Rain Bird International, Inc. talked of the basic principles of "Irrigation Design" and presented design manuals of different irrigation equipment. Justiniano R. Mendoza, Jr. expounded on the concept applied in the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, which was executed by well-known landscape architect, Lawrence Halprin. Frank Borja of DQA Environmental Design, Inc. discussed the design guidelines and principles applied in resort and golf course development. He cited Blue Waters in Boracay as an illustration of how the adverse impacts of development projects on the environment can be minimized. The series of lectures culminated with Honorio Palarca's "Visual Resource Evaluation and Management" where the importance of considering scenic qualities as a major parameter for site analysis was emphasized.

*-- Grace Ramos, Editor-in Chief*