

Architectural Research Colloquium (ARCo)

In celebration of 63 years of existence, the UP College of Architecture (UPCA) is organizing the First Architectural Research Colloquium (ARCo) during the HARAYA 2019 festivities, a biennial College event featuring the works of the undergraduate and graduate students and faculty for the past academic year. Scheduled on the third day of the first week of HARAYA 2019, ARCo shall serve as a showcase of research works of graduate students in their respective classes and the research efforts of members of the faculty. The pilot edition of the colloquium is organized by the UPCA Research and Extension (REx) Office in collaboration with the Graduate Programs for both Architecture and Landscape Architecture.

The goal of institutionalizing the said colloquium is to provide a venue to present recent progress, developments, collaborative or interdisciplinary work, and new approaches regarding the research endeavors of the faculty and graduate students under the Master of Architecture (MArch), Master of Tropical Landscape Architecture (MTLA), and other new degree programs under the Integrated Graduate Program (IGP) such as the Master of Arts in Architectural Studies (MAAS), Graduate Diploma in Landscape Studies (GDipLS), and Doctor of Philosophy in the Designed and Built Environment (PhDDBE).

The objectives of ARCo are as follow:

- Enhance and update current research practices in the Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and the Designed and Built Environment;
- Get constructive feedback from faculty and resource persons;
- Inspire and enjoin graduate students to make researches that will contribute to the body of knowledge;
- Build networks of next generation researchers; and
- Enhance communication and presentation skills.

The academic papers to be presented in the colloquium shall be divided into three major categories:

- A. Faculty Research Papers;
- B. Graduate Research Papers; and
- C. Graduate Thesis Works.

UPCA Faculty with Research Load Credit or Creative Work Load Credit (RLC/CWLC) are invited to present updates of their research/creative work endeavors as part of the requirements indicated in the College guidelines for assigning RLC/CWLC to the faculty members. A plenary session has been dedicated for this category to allow the faculty to disseminate their research projects to other stakeholders of the College and the general public.



Figure 1. Architectural Research Colloquium (ARCo) logo. The letter “C” (green and gray) symbolizes ripples coming from the red dot (letter “O”) and signifies the dissemination of the College’s academic research and creative works to the public.



Figure 2. HARAYA 2019 promotional poster for ARCo.

Source: Haraya Facebook Page
(<https://www.facebook.com/UPCAHaraya/>)

Under the category of Graduate Research Papers, students from the graduate programs (both Architecture and Landscape Architecture) are required to present their works from their classes in front of an audience. Research papers for presentation are further divided into three sub-categories:

- Emerging Research are papers that explore possible research topics (that may or may not be developed into a thesis/dissertation);
- Developing Research are papers that provide updates on papers that have been presented under the sub-category of Emerging or is part of an ongoing research project/program; and
- Realized Research are papers that have been done during the semester complete with results, discussion, and conclusion.

For each session, time is allotted for panel reaction from the faculty at the end of all paper presentations. This allows the faculty to comment and critique on how to further improve and elevate the level and quality of the research works of graduate students. An open public forum follows afterwards for sessions under the Realized Research papers sub-category.

The Graduate Thesis Works – masters or doctoral – are grouped into three levels: Proposals, Updates, and Thesis or Dissertation. The colloquium serves as a venue for graduate students not only to present and share their final works to the public but also to promote collaboration between them, the faculty, and interested parties to improve their thesis or dissertation.

To help the graduate students in preparing their research presentations for ARCo, an outline was given to them to serve as a guide:

- General Questions
 - Why is your research important?
 - How did you do your research?
 - What did you find out?
 - What do the results mean?

All papers presented by the students and faculty in the colloquium may be further improved, revised, and submitted by the authors for consideration and possible publication to the College's official academic journal, MUHON.

Institutionalizing ARCo in the College may also lead to possible research collaboration between students, faculty, and interested parties within or outside the University, including other public or government institutions, agencies, and design professionals in the designed and built environment. With the implementation of the new Integrated Graduate Program or IGP, interactions on research programs and projects between different studio laboratories of the College can be strengthened and highlighted the yearly academic activities of the faculty and students.