Architects and Education
Survival in the 90s
Modern Kitchens

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11



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Major improvements in scattered areas at the Princess Kaiulani Hotel called for a supremely accommodating contractor. Even as beautifully redesigned lobbies emerged, envisioned by the Gulstrom Kosko Group, and the popular Ainahau Showroom expanded with the overview of Ted Garduque, AIA, the hotelier continued to serve.

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### In this issue ...



DAVID FRANZEN PHOTOS

Education and architects is the focus of this issue of Hawaii Architect.

The cover depicts the Wo International Center on the Punahou school campus, which received a

1993 AIA Honolulu excellence award.

Inset photo features two young students at King Kamualii School, Kauai. Architects and AIA Honolulu and AIA Maui education committee members in collaboration with the Department of Education are involved in many projects

designed to help students understand the significance of the built environment. Under the leadership of Raymond Yeh, FAIA, dean of the UH School of Architecture, the curriculum offering is being altered to address the needs for continuing education and the perceived architectural demands of the emerging Asia Pacific Region. In collaboration with the professional community, the school is also switching from drafting board design to CAD.

The editor would like to thank Sandi P. Quildon, AIA, AIA Honolulu Committee on Education member and member of Hawaii Architect editorial board and Kevin Funasaki, AIA, chair of AIA Honolulu Committee on Education for their invaluable assistance and support in planning and preparing this issue of the magazine.

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# Ancient Landscapes



uring the two and a half months that I spent traveling and working in Central America, hardly a day went by that I did not experience some impressive spectacle. This adventure covered almost 5,000 kilometers throughout Mexico, Guatemala and Belize. Being a home town boy, born and raised in the islands, I could hardly have imagined a more alien world. A world of ancient ruins and dense tropical jungles, of people,



▲ Temple at Belair, Mexico, one of several Mayan ruins the author visited last year under a UH School of Architecture student scholarship program.

## Travel as a Means to Architecture

#### by Leighton Liu

The School of Architecture sponsors travel scholarships designed to enrich the education of students through independent research and foreign and domestic travel. The program was founded in 1982 with a generous endowment from Allen R. Johnson, AIA, and Roy C. Kelley, AIA, two Honolulu architects who had a vision of assisting deserving students in broadening their horizons through independent travel. Since then, numerous other individuals, firms and organizations have given generously to the school, resulting in what is probably the largest and best such program in the nation.

Last year, 14 University of Hawaii architecture students were awarded travel scholarships ranging from \$1,500 to \$5,000. The awardees were selected on a competitive basis by committees composed of faculty members and donor representatives, based on the quality of the students' written travel research proposals and applications. Upon their return to Hawaii, the awardees either made public presentations of their findings or submitted written reports on what they learned.

✤ Leighton Liu is associate professor and Scholarships and Awards chair, University of Hawaii at Manoa. language and culture wholly unlike my own. I came to Central America to learn about the ancient civilization of the Maya and to explore the architectural legacies of their ruined cities. The people I met and worked with, the friends that I made there, taught me a great deal more than simply history.

The Maya emerged as the dominant culture in Central America by about 400 B.C. Their civilization reached its zenith during its classical age from about 450 A.D. to about 700 A.D. and then began a precipitous decline, only to vanish into oblivion by 1000 A.D. It is a common misconception that the Maya somehow "disappeared." In fact, six million Maya live in Central America today.

Most of my summer was spent in the western part of the tiny country of Belize, on an archaeological site of a Maya city center called El Pilar.

The city of El Pilar is made up of about 16 plazas or building groupings, both ceremonial and residential, and we were attempting to

discern the architectural features and the individual building geometry within these groups. Our activities were supervised by Dr. Annabel Ford of the University of California, Santa Barbara, who has done research on the Maya in Central America for more than 15 years. Her experience in the historical and the present day workings of this region opened new vistas and took us places where few, if any, westerners had ever been.

 Michael J. Mortara was the 1993 recipient of the Allen R. Johnson/Roy C. Kelley Architectural Research Scholarship.





▲ Detail of the Nunnery Quadrangle at Uxmal, Mexico.

◀ Temple of the Old Woman at Uxmal, Mexico.



▲ Temple of the Sun, Palenque, Mexico

MORTARA PHOTOS

Public Schools





A.S.

The Artmobile, "Architecture and Environment" was designed and installed by Alison Nakatani, a 1993 UH School of Architecture graduate presently employed by John Hara Associates Inc. ▼ DAVID FRANZEN PHOTOS



he ideal school environment is a place that generates positive learning experiences. It involves aesthetics. attitudes and architecture. Architecture relates directly to the physical or built environment, which, in turn, contributes to our aesthetic and mental perceptions. While instruction can and does occur in practically any setting, a well-designed and functional built environment can enhance learning. A school, with all of its design components, is the result of human efforts to transform natural space into a setting that best accommodates, encourages and inculcates the learning process.

The study of architecture teaches students to relate to and appreciate the built environment. Through greater awareness of architecture, students can access how well—or how poorly—the built environment blends with and complements the natural environment. They can see the relationships between form and function. They can see how buildings express individual imagination and creativity, and cultural traditions and values.

In Hawaii, the Department of Education uses study of the built environment to integrate a wide range of curriculum and content areas. The study of architecture is not limited to drafting and other industrial arts courses. It also forms the core of lesson plans and student activities in science, math, visual arts, language arts and social studies.

Hawaii's public school students view the built environment as a contemporary issue—as features introduced to Planet Earth by people, for better or worse. They study the benefits and problems of the built environment in terms of planning, urbanization, design, graphics and social transformation.

#### Artmobile

To increase students' awareness of the built environment, the DOE has created an Artmobile Hawaii exhibit on "Architecture & the Built Environment." In the exhibit's title, "architecture" and "me" within the word "environment" are highlighted to emphasize how directly the subject affects the individual.

The interactive exhibit includes a teachers' guide and ancillary materials to expand the learning from the classroom to the community. It links aesthetics and community issues, using many examples from Hawaii and others from around the world. It looks at architecture in terms of utility, structure and beauty.

The exhibit also features the builders of the built environment: architects, planners, urban designers, engineers, interior designers and related professionals. Through this exposure to the building profession, Hawaii's students increase their ability to make informed career choices and to express their environmental interests as involved members of the community.

The artmobile exhibit began last May and recently toured Kauai schools, where it helped students and community members gain a greater understanding and appreciation of design and architecture to apply while rebuilding after Hurricane Iniki.

On Kauai, the exhibit generated additional learning activities:

• Wilcox Elementary students investigated neighborhoods and built models of selected buildings in their community;

• Kapaa High and Intermediate students studied their community's historical buildings;

• King Kaumualii Elementary students built models; and

• Hanalei Elementary students, teachers and parents worked together to plan a cafeteria design.

The artmobile is currently traveling between Central Oahu District schools through June 3. The exhibit continues for approximately three more years as it makes its way to an expanding schedule of Hawaii's schools.

#### Other DOE Programs

The DOE's art education program goes beyond arts and crafts to develop a full sense of visual literacy. It is not training students to become artists, says DOE art specialist Wendie Liu, but rather to understand how all elements and principles work together, enabling students to better control their own environments. The art program nurtures students to become wise creators, appreciators and consumers.

The DOE has used cable access television to present several programs in partnership with the American Institute of Architects. On the program, "Living with the Arts," AIA chapter members describe the types of projects they do with the schools. A similar cable access program with members of the American Planning Association discussed planning, preservation, restoration and the types of resource services available to schools.

Other recent or current programs relating to the built environment include:

• "Cityscape," a built environment education exhibit held at Honolulu Hale in 1990, 1991 and 1992 featured projects from students throughout the state;

• DOE's industrial education program instructs students on how to use computers for CAD;

• the environmental education program deals with both the natural and built environment;

• the Artists-in-the-Schools Program uses puppetry to present recycling issues, further equating visual literacy with environmental awareness; and

• Leeward Oahu District students in gifted and talented programs are discussing issues and features of building a model city.

Students in Hawaii learn that the built environment is as much a part of their surroundings as the natural environment. While only God can make a tree, people control what they create and place on the planet, and—with education—they can plan and design our world as a better and safer place to live.

• Greg Knudsen is acting communications director, Department of Education, state of Hawaii.

# Vision for Survival

The following are excerpts of the speech presented by Dean Yeh at the Hawaii State Council/AIA Convention last October at the Kamehameha Schools.

hese are hard times for architects in Hawaii and in most places in the United States, due to the economic downturn. Projects are more difficult to come by and many offices are facing staff reductions. We may feel it more here since Hawaii has been dependent on the Japanese economy, which is now in bad shape.

The Asia Pacific Region, however, still has more design and construction opportunities than any other region. China is open for business. It has a 15 percent annual economic growth over the last several years. Other Asian countries, including Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Korea are continuing their rapid economic upswing with a 6–10 percent annual growth while the United States and Germany have an annual growth rate of about 2 percent.

According to 1992 figures, this phenomenon of global economic shift has caused an

## **UH Plans International Symposium**

Planning is currently underway to hold a major international symposium on "Culture and Architecture of the Asia Pacific Region" at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, March 22–24, 1995. The effort is co-chaired by Edward Aotani, AIA, and Dr. Reginald Kwok, architect/planner, chair of Asia Studies at UH.

In conjunction with the APCA symposium, a worldwide call for entries for a design awards program and papers on topics addressing the Asia Pacific Region will be initiated shortly. Leighton Liu, associate professor, UH School of Architecture, is chair of the Asia Pacific Culture and Architectural Design Awards program. increase of international construction contracts in the Asia Pacific area by some 25 percent, with a continuing upward trend, while there has been a corresponding decrease of about 30 per-



W.H. Raymond Yeh

cent in the United States. These indications support the view that the Asia Pacific Region is and will be where the action is.

The opportunities for architects in the region are generated directly from the design and planning needs of the area. These needs are obvious and pressing as related to the following observations about the current state of architecture in the region. There is:

1. Rampant wholesale importation of technology and images from the West, particularly the United States. Countless large commercial structures and massive housing developments are being built today in China and elsewhere in Asia. Many of these developments are copies of existing projects in western settings and are very good examples of bad architecture in that they have little or no regard for their individual context. These developments have violated some fundamental requirements of architecture, failing to provide for specific needs of particular users and failing to account for the environmental factors of the local setting.

2. Dominance of developer projects with short-term economic objectives. Investors are looking for a quick return for their monies. This is exacerbated by political instability in some of the Asian countries. Consequently, there is little concern about the long-term merits of these types of projects and many



licatio

quickly become liabilities rather than assets.

3. General lack of planning and infrastructure support in the major cities throughout Asia. Consequently, there are now very severe traffic congestion and air pollution problems, along with other infrastructure problems in power supplies and communications. While these cities are growing at an unprecedented rate, many are also heading for an early demise.

4. General lack of developmental goals and planning policies for a sensible incremental growth in major cities in the region. There is very little master planning effort. Many of the new projects are relying on temporary rules and regulations and are not coherent with the longterm concerns of the larger neighborhoods.

Today, the need for architects and planners is greater than ever before in the Asia Pacific region, and opportunities for design innova-

tions have seldom been matched in the history of the profession. However, for Hawaii architects to contribute effectively, we must have better access to pertinent information, such as business practice, appropriate technology, and code requirements of the different locales: we must have a new approach and method to provide professional service that would allow us to practice in a longdistance and cross-cultural mode: we must have better language skills and better cultural understanding and, most importantly, we must have the design sensitivity to recognize and accommodate the various human aspects and needs of the users of the buildings for whom we design.

The competition for work in the region is tough. Architects and contractors from all over the world are already fiercely competing for work in the Pacific Rim. New methods of business practice and delivery of professional services are being devised and implemented rapidly by international firms to pursue their business goals in this region. The current slow time is a good time for Hawaii architects to plan for a major transformation of the practice to one which is needed to compete in this emerging arena. Honolulu has the largest concentration of U.S. architects in the Pacific and the ethnic background and experience, unmatched by any other U.S. city, to solve problems in the Asian context. In addition, the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center together have the strongest resource base in the United States to deal with Asia Pacific issues.

The UH School of Architecture is responsible for providing the important key to the future of the profession and, in particular, preparing architects to work effectively in the context of Hawaii and the entire Asia Pacific region.



Therefore, two things are being done at the UH School of Architecture:

1. Curriculum revision: A thorough review of our professional program was started last summer under the leadership of Gordon Tyau, AIA, and Francis Oda, AIA. A report has been drafted by their committee. The faculty curriculum committee is now responding to their recommendations. The new curriculum should provide the following:

• Greater opportunity for students to interact with other disciplines in the university, providing a larger window to the world.

• Program emphasis for architectural practice in the Asia Pacific Region, integrating areas of appropriate technologies, language, cultural understanding and cross-cultural business practice. This will include overseas exchange programs and internship opportu-



nities for UH students.

• Better integration of professional practice knowledge and skills in the curriculum, such as contemporary business practice procedures and the application of computer-aided design. New computer visualization capabilities will revolutionize our design process.

• Structured internship opportunities as part of the degree program to provide a more effective relationship between the classroom and the office learning experiences. We have a unique setting here in Honolulu, with five AIA members for each student. This most favorable ratio of professionals to students will allow us to have a unique professional internship program.

• Eligibility to take the licensure examination earlier with a better passing rate. Statistics show that of the graduates who have at least eight years of required combined education and internship taking the examination, only 20 percent will pass the nine-part NCARB national examination on their first try. By repeating the examination, more will pass and eventually become architects, but only about half of the graduates of schools of architecture will ultimately qualify as professional architects. This is a waste of human and educational resources.

• Increased interaction with the professional community in joint efforts in research, creative endeavors, teaching and learning.

A by-product of this program restructuring effort may be the introduction of a more efficient model of architectural education which, in its current form, is the most inefficient of all professional education models. Architecture schools traditionally have tried to do too much within the framework of a professional degree program at the baccalaureate level. Consequently, the program mission has become muddled. The School of Architecture intends to rectify this problem with a new program format.

2. Formation of the Asia Pacific Center for Architecture—In parallel with the restructuring of the professional curriculum, is the formation of the APCA. The purpose of the APCA is to further the understanding of Asia Pacific architecture as a derivative of the cultural ideals of the region.

APCA will seek to develop literacy in regional architecture and to advance scholarship in this area. It will seek opportunities to provide a bridge between the historical and theoretical elements and the practical architectural design considerations of cities, landscapes and buildings in the Asia Pacific region.

Strategically located in the middle of the Pacific Basin at the cultural interface between east and west. APCA will be the focus for informational interchange on Asia Pacific architecture. Membership in APCA will be open to students. scholars and practitioners in the arts and sciences of Asia Pacific architecture, and to institutions and corporations. APCA activities will include research, seminars and conferences, visiting scholars programs, journal publication and the maintenance of an archive of exemplary works of Asia Pacific architecture. One of the inaugural events of APCA will be a major international symposium of the topic of architecture in the east/west context to be held in Honolulu in early 1995.

The UH School of Architecture, working closely with the architecture profession in Hawaii, will strive to make Hawaii a future hub for architectural expertise in the Asia Pacific region. The restructuring of the professional curriculum and the formation of the Asia Pacific Center for Architecture are crucial to achieving this goal.

• W.H. Raymond Yeh, FAIA, is dean, School of Architecture, University of Hawaii at Manoa.



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Fnnironment

# Flirting with disaster



everal months ago, I was subpoenaed as a witness in a case involving the construction of an illegal seawall in a residential shoreline neighborhood. The neighbor of an abutting property, which did not have a seawall, contended that he was experiencing severe erosion along his shoreline frontage as the result of the neighbor's construction of the seawall. According to the aggrieved neighbor's complaint, the abutting property owner's seawall deflected the



Art Challacombe

ocean waves away from his property, resulting in a direct, concentrated wave scouring onto the unprotected neighboring lot.

This is a situation between two shoreline property owners in which the offending neighbor will ultimately find himself in serious legal trouble. Even if the neighbor with the seawall is successful in court, because the wall was built illegally, he may be ordered to remove the wall by the DLU and will most likely face substantial civil fines.

These events illustrate problems which occur because of noncompliance with the city's Shoreline Setback Ordinance. The City & County of Honolulu adopted shoreline setback rules and regulations in 1970, which implemented state law. The primary purpose of the rules and regulations is to protect and



NOTE 1. ARMOR STONE SHALL BE SINGLE LAYER, KEYED AND FITTED, AND IN CONTACT WITH ADJACENT STONES. preserve the natural shoreline, especially sandy beaches. It prohibits activities and structures which may adversely affect natural beach processes, public access along the shoreline and shoreline open space.

Ordinance No. 92-34 adopted April 27, 1992, made portions of the existing Shoreline Setback Rules and Regulations obsolete and required the preparation of new rules and regulations. The new ordinance set up criteria for granting variances to shoreline setback. Before granting a variance, however, the DLU must determine that the applicant's proposal is a reasonable use of the land and will not have significant impact on public access or interfere with natural processes of the ocean. Because of the dynamic nature of the shoreline environment, inappropriately designed or placed seawalls and revetments may easily pose a risk to individuals or to the public health and safety. For this reason, the DLU determines the "reasonable use of the land" by reviewing factors such as shoreline conditions, erosion, surf and flood conditions and the geography of the lot.

The DLU recognizes Oahu's beaches as valuable recreation and economic resources worthy of public protection. With this in mind, the DLU generally cannot justify granting variance requests which intend to harden the shoreline. Where a shoreline stabilization structure is justified, as in a case involving potential loss of the principal dwelling, the DLU, as does the Army Corps of Engineers, favors construction of a sloped revetment which, when properly placed, can dissipate wave energy and trap incoming sand. Vertical seawalls, which tend to reflect wave energy and contribute to sand loss in almost every instance, cannot be justified.

As cumbersome and lengthy as the Shoreline Setback Variance process may seem, it is the law and is far simpler than attempting to correct an after-the-fact seawall construction project. Certification of the shoreline is extremely difficult; persuading an engineer to certify the design integrity of a structure that has already been built is next to impossible. In addition to these difficulties, the property owner is subject to civil fines of up to \$10,000 per violation and daily fines of up to \$1,000 until the violation is corrected or a variance is granted.

With proper planning and foresight, shoreline property owners can reasonably build and live with the ever-changing forces of the ocean.

→Art Challacombe is chief, Environmental Review Branch, Department of Land Utilization, City & County of Honolulu.



Design Considerations

# Accessibility Laws

This is the second in a series of articles to help clarify the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

he Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 requires buildings and facilities newly constructed or altered by or on behalf of the federal government to be accessible per the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standard. The Act also covers buildings and facilities leased in whole or part by the United States on or after Jan. 1, 1977, and buildings and facilities financed in whole or part by a grant or loan made by the United States after Aug. 12, 1968.

The Act makes it unlawful to fail to design and construct buildings and facilities to meet minimum design requirements of UFAS. This law does not supplant state or local laws that impose a higher degree of accessibility. The governing principle is to follow the more stringent standard.

To ensure compliance with the standards, Congress established the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board) in section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability for programs and services that receive federal financial assistance and in programs and services conducted by the federal government. Federal agencies are responsible to issue section 504 regulations for its programs and services and many agencies deem compliance with UFAS in new construction and alterations as meeting the requirements of section 504.

Most federal agencies use UFAS as their accessibility design standard, but a handful use the American National Standards Institute A117.1 standard.

The federal government is presently exempt from the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), but to further the goal of uniform standards, the Access Board intends to use the amended ADAAG as the accessibility guidelines for federally financed facilities covered by the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968.

The Americans with Disabilities Act is a comprehensive civil rights law for people with disabilities. Titles II and III of the ADA establish accessibility requirements for state and local governments, places of public accommodations and commercial facilities and providers of public transportation. The transportation portions of Titles II and III were issued by the Department of Transportation. The ADAAG is referenced in Title



Designers must address the needs of *all* citizens. ▼



## Compliance in the 90s

Hawaii Architect's second ADA review highlights companies that provide products specifically designed to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

ADA is a comprehensive, far reaching law providing approximately 43 million individuals who have disabilities, their civil rights.

The companies participating in this section feature products that make it easier to satisfy ADA requirements efficiently and with the maximum opportunity for creativity.

ACCESS LIFTS, HAWAII provides elevator products that respond to the American with Disabilities Act.

ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING & CONSULTING, INC. can provide construction and design consulting, barrier identification, awareness training and workshops.

HAWAII PACIFIC PLUMBING SUPPLY distributes Pressalit barrier-free products for American Standard. Pressalit's Rehab and Multi System lines complement American Standard's current offering of barrier-free products which include 17" high toilets, lavatories that accommodate wheelchairs, adjustable height shower bars, faucets with temperature control and scald-protection features, and easy to use lever and loop handles.

The key to the system is that it works for all household users, physically challenged or not.

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IS YOUR BUSINESS IN COMPLIANCE?

#### III of the ADA.

Except for transit provisions, the DOT regulations currently allow state and local government (Title II entities) to use either UFAS or ADAAG, without the elevator exemption. The Access Board will be issuing an amendment to the ADAAG to address state and local government jurisdictions. The amendment will add four new sections covering judicial, legislative and regulatory facilities; detention and correctional facilities; accessible residential housing; and public rights-of-way. The amendments to the ADA guidelines should be published in the federal register in early 1994.

Hawaii Revised Statutes 103-50 was amended during the last legislative session to adopt the ADAAG for new construction and alterations of buildings and facilities under state or county jurisdiction, or funded privately and later turned over to a state or county jurisdiction (see article published in the January 1994 issue of *Hawaii Architect*). All projects submitted to the Commission on Persons with Disabilities with a bid date for construction before January, 1994, will be reviewed to UFAS. The ADAAG is applicable for

projects with bid dates for construction after Jan. 1, 1994. It is possible for a building or

## The Book Everyone's Talking About!

This is a valuable resource for all businesses who are faced with ADA compliance. A no-nonsense, fact-filled directory designed to help industry professionals and their clients to meet the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

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facility to be covered by more than one standard. For example, if Community Development Block Grant funds were used to upgrade a portion of the downtown area, the renovations would have to comply with both UFAS and ADAAG. Because federal funds are being used, the alterations would have to comply with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, both of which use UFAS.

Alterations to places of public accommodations and commercial facilities would have to comply with the ADAAG. The ADAAG is more stringent than UFAS in some areas, while UFAS is more stringent in others. For example, in ADAAG, accessible van parking is required. The ADAAG also provides for an elevator exemption for places of public accommodation that are less than three stories, or that have less than 3,000 square feet per story, unless it is a shopping center, shopping mall or professional office of a health care provider. This exemption does not apply to government buildings and facilities. A facility covered by both the ADA and another federal law or regulation requiring compliance with accessibility standards must comply with the specific provisions that provide for greater accessibility.

➡ Ben A. Gorospe Jr. is coordinator, Facilities Access Unit, Commission on Persons with Disabilities, state Department of Health.

## UH Offers Accessible Design Course

The Commission on Persons with Disabilities (CPD) is presenting a full-semester, three-credit-hour course titled "Accessible Design" at the University of Hawaii, School of Architecture. The course has been identified by the AIA Honolulu as qualifying for the AIA Continuing Education System Pilot Program. Principal instructors for CPD are Richard R. Bosch, AIA, Facility Access Specialist, and Benjamin Gorospe, Facility Access Coordinator.

Accessible Design will explore the role of the architect in the creation of the accessible community. The course will provide a comprehensive introduction to the creation of accessible buildings and facilities, and to considerations for community-wide planning. The approach will be positive and community-based, and promote awareness of the important role of the architect.

The course will treat accessibility as a universal design issue to be incorporated into all aspects of the daily experience. It will consider examples of historic and contemporary architecture and urban design, with the belief that the design strategies that can create accessibility are already established in architectural theory.

The teaching document is organized into Introductory Issues Design and Technical Issues and Universal Application. The CPD delivers presentations and conducts seminars on a broad range of topics related to disabilities, but accessible design represents the first assimilation of those diverse topics into one curriculum. Each class will be a standalone topic that could be presented independently, but collectively forms a teaching document appropriate for the design student and the Hawaii-based practitioner.

Anyone interested in enrolling in the course for the fall semester should contact Richard R. Bosch at the CPD, 586-8121, or Associate Dean Barry John Baker, AIA, 956-4900.

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#### Architects Invited to 24th BIA Building Materials EXPO

Architects are among the professional groups invited to attend the 24th annual BIA Building Materials EXPO. Sponsored by the Building Industry Association of Hawaii and GECC Financial, EXPO '94 will be held March 9, 3:30 to 8 p.m. and March 10, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Neal Blaisdell Center in Honolulu.

Professionals involved in the building industry and related businesses, such as real estate and finance, and from industry-related military and government agencies are welcome to attend. A business card is required for admission.

Building Materials EXPO is Hawaii's major annual trade show for companies supplying Hawaii's construction industry with materials, equipment and services. Exhibits will range from windows, roofing, appliances and cabinets to trucks and forklifts. A number of new products will be introduced.

This year's "special feature" exhibit will be the Aloha Tower Marketplace, the centerpiece of The Waterfront at Aloha Tower, a multiuse redevelopment of historic Honolulu Harbor by Aloha Tower Associates in cooperation with the state of Hawaii.

#### Students' Awards Announced

Winners of the 1994 AIA Students Design Awards were announced during an AIA Honolulu Student Design Awards program at the University of Hawaii, Thursday evening, Feb. 17.

Roger Gasper received the Alfred Preis Award in the 100 Level Design Studio for his Contemporary Art Museum entry. Also receiving awards of merit in this category were Grant Sumile for a Contem-

porary Art Museum and Brian Fujiwara for Area Division.

Brian Major was selected for the William Furer Award in the 200 Level Design for a Kaimuki Office Building.

Mark Tagawa was awarded the Hart Wood Award sponsored by Studio Becker Zeyko in the 400 Level Design for Honolulu Symphony Center. Craig Takahata also received an award of merit in this category for Public Library with Associated Community Facilities.

Selected for the C.W. Dickey Award in the graduate design category were Cheryl Gima, Suchart Ketuniti, Leslie Nishikawa and Ross Yamasaki for Oahu Hospice entry. Alison Nakatani also received an award of merit for her Art Mobile design and installation project in the same category.

Design Awards Committee Chair Paul Pollock, AIA, said judges included Darrell Welch, AIA; Kyle Hamada, Associate AIA; John Ida, AIA; Donna Yuen, AIA; and Hitoshi Hida, AIA,

#### Beaux Arts Ball Set March 31

The University of Hawaii School of Architecture Alumni Association (UHSAAA) will hold a Beaux Arts Ball at the Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki, Mauna Kea Ballroom, Thursday, March 31, 7 to 10:30 p.m.

For tickets or information call Choy-Ling Wong, ASID, at 942-7978.

#### Partnering Retreat at Tokai

AIA Honolulu and the General Contractors Association of Hawaii are co-sponsoring a Partnering Retreat at Tokai University, 2241 Kapiolani Blvd., Friday, March 25, 2 to 5 p.m. followed by a social hour from 5 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, March 26, 8 to 4:30 p.m.

For additional information contact AIA Honolulu, 545-4242 or the General Contractors Association of Hawaii at 833-1681.

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# **Risk Prevention**

Two recent developments in Hawaii point out the need for hiring architects to provide design and construction services.

adership Messad

#### **Property Insurance Crisis**

Property insurance rate increases indicate that insurance underwriters are concerned about the ability of Hawaii's buildings to resist high winds and other hazards.

Although the increases have been accompanied by public outcry, it is only fair that high-risk buildings pay higher insurance premiums.

AIA believes Hawaii should reduce property insurance premiums by designing buildings that can withstand high wind and other hazardous conditions in areas of potentially high risk.

One of the surest ways of improving the quality of buildings is to have architects design buildings of all sizes. The AIA continually fights off attempts to dilute the safeguard in state law HRS 464 that architects or engineers should design almost all buildings. Residential buildings seem particularly vulnerable, because some developers and homeowners fail to understand that properly designed and built houses are more likely to survive hurricane winds and other hazards. The Legislature must not relax the current safeguards.

The AIA wants incentives for homeowners and other building owners who reduce potential property damage by higher initial investment in design and construction. The slight increase in initial construction cost would be paid for by lower long-term property insurance rates. Peace of mind and uninterrupted living or operating conditions would be additional benefits. There needs



Daniel G. Chun

to be a stronger correlation between good construction and lower property insurance rates.

#### **Contractor Scams**

News headlines about a major contractor scam on Kauai are another example of problems that could have been prevented if architects had been involved. Architects are not merely makers of drawings. Architects develop contract documents, including drawings, upon which owners and builders make binding agreements. Typically, architects must also approve builders' requests for payments from the owner.

This is another situation in which the initial cost savings have proved to be false economy. If some island communities do not have enough architects to provide these services, this implies ignorance on their part about the true value of architectural services. Even small-scale island building projects would entice architects to provide services if building owners truly understood the benefit of hiring architects to design and administer the construction of buildings.

✤ Daniel G. Chun, AIA, is president, Hawaii State Council/AIA.



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# Kitchen Design

odern kitchens must not only be alluring but also functional and equipped with appliances that meet the needs of today's fastpaced life. Troy Adams had these attributes in mind when he designed his "smart" kitchen which took first place in the 1993 Sub-Zero design contest.

"The homeowners requested a kitchen that when somebody walked in they would say,"wow." So what we put together is a kitchen that has many, many elements in it," Adams said.

The kitchen's focus is a main working island that features a built-in window seating area, a butler's pantry and serving area, which is a station mid point between the kitchen and dining room where food can be kept warm prior to serving, and a bake station.

"Aesthetically we wanted to create a

#### Sub-Zero Announces Contest Winners

Troy Adams, CKD, president of Studio Becker Zeyko Kitchens was awarded first prize in the 1993 Sub-Zero Hawaii Kitchen Design Contest.

Adams received the award, including a \$5,000 prize, for his kitchen design for the "Smart House" in Kahala.

Second place honors went to Deborah Walsh, CKD, of Design Guild; Judy Dawson, CKD, CBD, owner of Designer Kitchens and Baths was awarded third place.

A kitchen entry by Lorrin Lee, AIA, received fourth place and fifth place was awarded to John Ida of Urban Works.

According to Robert P. Riggs, president and CEO, Sub-Zero Distributors, Inc., judging criteria included overall design, aesthetics and best use of Sub-Zero built-in refrigerators and freezers.

"We were very pleased by the response to this exclusively Hawaii contest," said Riggs. "It was a first-time event and it was a huge success." theme that would mix and match with the ocean, so the teal cabinetry was selected in our Avance model in a high-gloss polyurethane finish," Adams said.

To slightly tone down the high-tech look of the kitchen, Adams used beechwood accents and introduced stainless steel and absolute black granite countertops.

The Studio Becker Zeyko team achieved a sleek, clean look by not installing upper cabinetry. "We extended the depth of the countertops by an extra foot and used appliance garages on the countertop," Adams explained, adding that the garages housed a microwave oven and dishes and small electrical appliances. Much of the dish storage was put into base cabinets, a unique approach.

This smart house project was done in collaboration with architect Chuck Masseth.

According to Deborah Walsh, CKD, of Design Guild the focal point of the kitchen that took second place in the contest is a super sized island reflecting the needs and personalities of the owners of this Poipu Drive residence who like to entertain in the kitchen.

Two planes of the island countertop are defined by contrasting materials. Bone Corian<sup>®</sup> at the sink level lends a bright crispness to the primary food preparation area and contributes to ease of care, while the ivory brown slab granite on the upper level and cooking area is the inspiration and unifying element of the color scheme—sand white and rose beige anchored with black and punctuated by metallics.

Natural day light comes in through ventilating skylights. In the evening, the functioning is enhanced and the mood controlled by the interplay of ambient, task and general lighting. A. Trigg-Smith, AIA, was project architect.

the line



using granite, and a seamless counter and window pass-through in easy to maintain cameo white Corian<sup>®</sup> for the preparation area.

Undermounting the sink and inlaying the sliding windows into the Corian<sup>®</sup> gives a smooth clean finish. Teak parquet flooring in the kitchen and adjacent family room was refinished to unite the rooms.

◄ First prize was awarded to Troy Adams, Studio Becker Zeyko Kitchens for the "Smart House" kitchen design in Kahala.

Kitchen designed by Deborah Walsh received second prize in the Sub-Zero kitchen contest. ▼

The kitchen design that won third place for Judy Dawson of Designer Kitchens and Baths features an interesting mix of materials in the cabinetry and counter surfaces. White high gloss laminate on the cabinets gives a light open feeling and is accented by taupe in the display cabinet/ wine rack detail.

The warm coloring is continued in a rich brown/black granite on the cooktop peninsula and runs along the lower edge of bullnose counter by the sink.

One-half inch Corian<sup>®</sup> atop the granite nosing joins these two different surfaces in a pleasing and cost effective combination.

The mix of materials brings out the best of both surfaces—heat resistance for the cooktop area

### Grand Territory Winner

Troy Adams, CKD, of Studio Becker Zeyko, was selected Grand Territory winner in the Sub-Zero Kitchen Design Award. As such, Adams advances to the national level in which 44 territory winners will compete for a \$10,000 grand prize. The

national winner will be select-

ed this month.





▲ This kitchen, designed by Judy Dawson, Design Kitchens and Baths, placed third in the Sub-Zero kitchen design contest.



## Award of Excellence Office of Commerce and Institutional Design

#### John Hara Associates Wo International Center

Artifacts by artist John Young are displayed in the lower lobby, Wo International Center. DAVID FRANZEN PHOTOS In 1990, Punahou School's trustees asked John Hara Associates to design a center for the school's new international studies program.

The center was to provide a wide range of uses fostering the interchange of ideas and

culture between different countries.

Specific program requirements included multi-use classrooms incorporating telecommunication capabilities, administrative offices, conference rooms, reception area and a 150-seat auditorium equipped with



telecommunication and simultaneous translation systems.

The architects took the location of the proposed site along Chamberlin Drive on the Punahou Campus as an opportunity to link in coherent fashion all of the buildings along the drive. All the structures have sloped tile or slate roofs, and plastered facades and reflect the era in which they were built. Relocation of existing roads and a uniform landscaping program also contributed to this unity.

The building exterior design is unpretentious. Student entry is on the upper level connecting directly with classrooms. A two-story lobby links administrative functions on the lower floor. The auditorium is situated so that it can be used independently by the center Punahou or the community.

#### Jury's Comments:

"Well sited building; fits in well with the rest of the campus...Appropriately restrained educational building...Building materials respect the adjacent structures and offer a continuum...Sophisticated detailing and integration of artwork."



◀ Entrance to the Wo International Center, as seen from Diamond Head's side.



Credits:

**Owner** Punahou School

Architect John Hara Associates

Principal in charge John M. Hara, AIA

**Project architects** Richard Oldfield Jun Sakauye, AIA Paul Kai

**Civil engineer** Belt Collins & Associates

Electrical engineer Bennett Drane Karamatsu

**Structural engineer** Tanimaru & Associates, Inc.

Mechanical engineer ECS, Inc.

Landscaping Belt Collins & Associates

Interiors John Hara Associates, Inc.

**General contractor** American Constructors Hawaii Education

# Addressing student needs Architects-in-Schools



Honolulu's Mae Mae Elementary students sent Brian Takahashi, AIA, and Kevin Funasaki, AIA, thank-you notes for their classroom lesson on AIS Colonial Architecture. Alex Neuhold, below, discusses architecture with a student during Farrington High Career Day. Below right, Neuhold, left, and Teresa Davidson, AIA, are ready to talk about architecture.



he Public Education Committee (PEC) of AIA Honolulu has been actively involved in job fairs, career days and the "Architects-in-Schools" (AIS) program. The AIS program addresses the needs of students in public schools, grades K through 6. Architects are directly involved in classroom projects

> involving colonial architecture, straw towers and animal architecture, to name a few. The committee also supports activities of the state Department of Education (DOE) and the UH School of Architecture.

The committee consists of 11 dedicated architects; more members are needed to adequately respond to requests for support from public schools.

PEC meets the second Friday of each month at the AIA Honolulu office, noon. Next meetings are scheduled for March 11 and April 8. For information call PEC chair Kevin Funasaki, AIA, at 526-2828.





## Program Helps Girls Boost Self-Esteem

#### by Taylor Cockerham

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) in 1991 released a study of young girls in public schools. This report, How Schools Shortchange Girls, compiled, written and published by Wellesley University under AAUW grant, brought to light disturbing social and educational trends.

The report indicated young girls did not receive the same attention from teachers as boys; girls graduated from high school with less selfesteem and confidence than boys; and sexual harassment of girls, by boys, was on the rise.

The data showed an increase in gender gap in science and also that girls are less likely to enroll in advanced math classes or rise to the top of these classes.

Following publication of the AAUW report, the Hilo branch of AAUW initiated annual conferences — "Into the World of Tomorrow"—to address these issues at the local level. Their purpose is to encourage young girls 1) to study math and science, 2) to meet women role models from the community and 3) to experience workshops focusing on different careers.

As an architect role model in last year's conference, I focused on the specifics of drawing, three-dimensional thinking and decisionmaking. I reviewed with students blueprints and models and then working drawings.

We talked about the two-dimensional representation of the plan,

section and elevation of a simple imaginary building, a concept some of the girls had difficulty grasping. Using the same blueprint, but a different detail, I stressed the importance of 3-D in architecture. The youngsters then cut out paper models from the print, an exercise inspired by "tab A, insert at Slot A, etc.," and then created (taped) their models into 10 small buildings. Explaining the importance of decision making in terms of selfesteem and general life experiences was a bit more involved, however.

Programs such as "Into the World of Tomorrow" provide architects with opportunities to reach out to the community.

 Taylor Cockerham, AIA, is president, Hawaii Island Section, AIA Honolulu.

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