



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

August 2008

Forthcoming Meeting

W104 - Open Building Implementation

EDUCATION FOR AN OPEN ARCHITECTURE

Education for an Open Architecture

An International Conference Hosted by:
Ball State University College of Architecture and Planning +
CIB W104 Open Building Implementation

Muncie, IN, United States, 19-22 October 2008

Introduction

This conference on Education for an Open Architecture, which will take place in Muncie, IN, USA on 19-22 October 2008, will draw educators and practitioners from around the world to discuss challenges to architectural education resulting from a new reality that needs to be taken seriously: it is no longer suitable to design buildings for fixed functions. A substantial part of our building stock needs to accommodate changing functions and at the same time be long-lasting. While there are exceptions, the need to balance change and stability exists in the office, retail, medical and housing markets, as well as laboratories, educational buildings and manufacturing facilities.

What is Open Architecture?

The built field - bigger than any profession and following its own laws - embodies environmental patterns and social structures of influence and responsibility, where conventions, levels of intervention, and shared themes frame our professional contributions. Both everyday and exceptional places coexist in the built field, in which designing, and innovation, are continuous processes. Teaching principles of open architecture is thus very important in helping students understand how the built

field works, and how we might intervene to make it better.

Open Architecture concerns at least three main principles: change, levels of intervention, and distributed design.

How can environmental design education - around the world - do better in meeting these challenges? How are we doing and what needs to be done?

Student Competition

There will be an international student competition to accompany this conference.

This competition provides a unique opportunity for future architects to challenge conventional approaches to design, and to investigate and develop new concepts for an open and sustainable architecture for the 21st century.

The Competition projects are expected to assume a temporal identity in architecture through the maximization of its momentary and fleeting event-structure. Entries should place strong emphasis on performance of buildings and neighborhoods on the time axis. In so doing, they should offer a critical look at architectural traditions, including the idea of architecture as stones-in-the-water monuments. In

addition, a new understanding of environment and sustainable development now calls for an architecture of process, based on new methodologies. Therefore, entries will need to describe approaches to composing transparent processes and open-ended environments that establish connections between people and their surroundings, between the past, present and future, and that allow them to experience these places and built-form through thoughtful re-use and rediscovery.

Additional Information

Information about the conference and the competition can be found at

www.bsu.edu/bfi/openarchitectureconference

The conference is part of the work of the CIB W104 Open Building Implementation network (www.open-building.org) and is being organized locally by Dr. Stephen Kendall, Professor of Architecture and Michael Gibson, Instructor in Architecture.

Contact openarch@bsu.edu for further information. Melanie Smith, College of Architecture and Planning.

For additional information about the CIB W104 meetings please contact the Coordinators: Stephen Kendall skendall@bsu.edu, Beisi Jia jia@arch.hku.hk, and Kasunobu Minami k-minami@sic.shibaura-it.ac.jp.



You can find more information on the activities of CIB W104 at www.cibworld.nl/website - section Search under Databases/CIB Commissions. Click on Commissions and type W104 in the search field.