The construction industry requires a new role which could respond to an attractive offer from the government which would allow formal constructors to join forces with informal constructors.

**Land Tenancy And Regularisation Of Urban Land**

Faced with the problem of being denied access to the formal housing market, a majority of the urban population in Venezuela has taken the course of squatting on unoccupied land. This leads to insecurity from the legal aspect and the risk of eviction which threatens the most fundamental of human rights. We need to take integrated action, which extends not only to land title but also to credit access, services and all the opportunities that urban life offers. The aim of this is to incorporate informal settlements in the structure of the city where they are located and to improve the living standards of those who live there.

**Alternative Sources Of Financing For Low Income Families**

Alternative financing facilities should be made available to those with the lowest incomes. The experiences in 'Casa Mejor' in Fortaleza, Brazil, a municipal community support programme, accessible community funds and the initiative of the inhabitants should all be taken into account when backing spontaneous housing processes originating in the informal sector.

**The Voice Of The Inhabitant**

The opinion and the needs of city dwellers should be recognised and valued to their full extent. Governments alone cannot take all the responsibility without the participation of the population and the cooperation of all those involved in a common project. The inhabitants should be given the opportunity to express their needs. 'We claim the right to be present when we are being discussed'. (1)


**The Mission Of The University**

The University must continue to further Technological Research, developing materials to reduce construction costs and simplify construction techniques.

Also, at the request of the inhabitants, the University should become involved in technical assistance in Engineering and Architecture through Compulsory Community Internship. In the same way that the Faculty of Medicine, through rural internship, addresses health, these internships would guarantee widespread attention in the area of housing and services in informal settlements.

This could be established as a pre-requisite for a University Degree. There was also a request that a compulsory course on Self Built Urban Settlements should be instituted together with the design of social projects in conjunction with the inhabitants of low income sectors.

**W096 - Architectural Management**

Reporting on the last held meeting on 18th and 19th September 1998, Joint Coordinator Dr. Paul Nicholson says:

"Sunny Brighton was the venue for the latest Symposium of W096, which was entitled The Design Agenda. Brighton University hosted the event, and Dr. David Wyatt and David Rutter dealt with the local logistics. Papers ranged from The Green Shift and the Shrinking Universe given by Conall O'Cathein, to Building for Life - a Sustainable Objective? given by David Wyatt, and the programme also featured: Sustainable Building Design: obtaining the right balance? by David Rutter and Books Vision 2000, a keynote paper by Sonny Hasan. All the papers encouraged healthy and useful discussion between participants."
Notes Paul Nicholson: There is no doubt that the formula which W096 has developed over the years is very successful, particularly in view of the fact that this year parallel sessions had to be introduced in order to allow time for all of the speakers."

Actually the contents of the two sessions provided a vivid illustration of just how wide a scope Architectural Management covers.

Among the papers presented in these sessions were:

- Through a whole Life Design by Pietro Zennaro
- Information Management—the Heart of the Design Agenda by Stephen Emmitt
- Environmental Impact Assessment: a bureaucratic conceit: by Denise Hill
- The Intranet - the importance of Internal Communications by Stephen Bragg
- Design for Durable, Adaptable and Sustainable Buildings: a Life Cycle Approach by Zing Quan Zhang
- Architecture and Business Process Redesign in Practice by Gustaaf Boissevain

Next Meeting

Paul Nicholson also announced that arrangements were well in hand for the next meeting of W096 in Venice on 19th and 20th March 1999.

More on this in the Section Forthcoming Meetings

Joint Coordinator Dr.Ir. Matthijs Prins

It was reported in Information Issue 2.98 that Matt Prins had been appointed to succeed Dik Spekkink as Joint Coordinator of W096.

We now have Matt's professional data available and are pleased to feature this information below.

Matthijs Prins gained his Master's Degree in Building Engineering in 1986 on research into the development of instruments for planning, briefing and evaluating of buildings. Subsequently he carried out research on the qualitative and quantitative aspects of all residential buildings for socially disabled children in the Netherlands for the Dutch Ministry of WVC. In 1988 he joined the Eindhoven University of Technology (TUE) and commenced research aimed at the development of an automated method to optimise, in terms of life cycle costs, the flexibility of buildings. In 1992 this project was concluded with a doctoral thesis.

He has since continued at TUE as Assistant Professor. From 1992 he shifted his attention to architectural design management systems. He was one of the founders of the full time two years post doctoral design course on Architectural Design Management Systems (ADMS) at the TUE, which started in 1996, in which he is still involved as board member, lecturer and coordinator of the main part of the curriculum. The course has been developed in collaboration with leading representatives of the Dutch building industry. He was also involved in setting up the Dutch post doctorate school for practical training in architecture and city planning (PAS).

Matthijs Prins took an active part in the initiative to establish the CIB Working Commission W096 on Architectural Management in 1992, and has remained involved from its inception. He has played a leading role in organising meetings.

In 1996 he was chosen by the members of W096 as Deputy Coordinator and in 1997 as Joint Coordinator.
He is also a board member of the Society for the Advancement of Architectural Management (SAAM), a society which was set up to support the activities of W096. Within CIB he has also actively participated in meetings of W055, W065 and W078, and he was involved in the CIB meeting in 1996 to create what has since become the highly successful Task Group on Open Building (TG26) as can be read elsewhere in this issue.

Among his main objectives as Joint Coordinator of W096 is to attract a wider variety of members to the Commission, especially from the USA and South East Asia.

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