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NOTICE BOARD

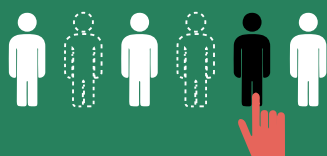
Upcoming Events in September

| FP-PG Exposure Lecture Series

| Mid Term Exams & Juries

| BUD Informal Talk Series

Placements 2020



PICK YOUR MATCH

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ACADEMICS @FP

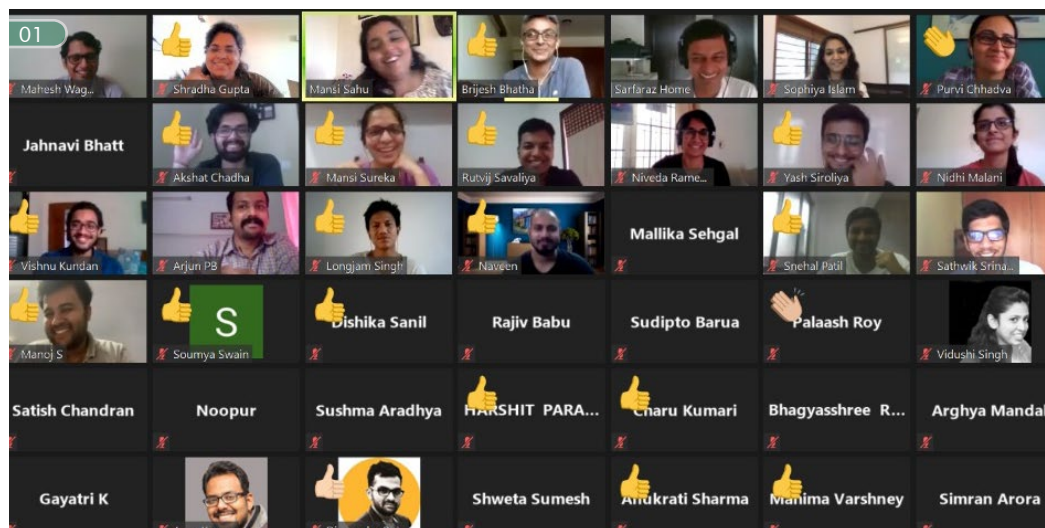


Fig 01: Studio POD Lecture, Master of Urban Design | Source: Shradha Gupta

Guest Lecture Series for FP-PG students

A series of guest lectures are being conducted for 3rd semester students of the postgraduate programme, with experts sharing their experience from the fields of urban planning, design, transportation, housing, infrastructure, engineering, green urbanism, law and management to name a few.

Master of Urban Planning

As a part of the ongoing exposure series, MUP students had lectures on topics such as thinking about Planning in Indian Cities, Understanding of Land Records and Base map preparation and Visioning & Concepts in Micro Planning by eminent speakers namely Dr. Bimal Patel, President CEPT University, Dr. Harshul Parekh & Prof. Amit Gotecha, Faculty, FP-CEPT University and Mr. Shobit Tayal, Co-Founder & Director of DPC, Ahmedabad respectively.

Master of Urban Transport Systems

As part of a highly informative and interactive session, 3rd Semester students of Master of Urban Transport Systems, had a session with Mr. Amarjit Singh Lakra, Former Director, CIRT Pune on the User Tariffs of Public Transport and Electric Traction in Metro Rail Systems by Mr. Manoj Goyal, Chief Electrical Engineer, IRCTC.

Master of Urban Housing

A Workshop Series for Master of Urban Housing, 3rd Semester students complementing the Housing Project Studio was conducted by Ms. Anal Kapadia Vaishnav, Director of Icon Architects and Planners & Director of Living Roots, Environmental Design Studio. The lecture introduced the students to green urbanism and sustainable housing development in brownfield development projects through a live project in Kolkata.

Master of Urban Design

A series of interactive sessions are being conducted between the students of Master of Urban Design and professional Urban Design practices in India. In this regard, Mansi Sahu, Sarfaraz Momin and Mahesh Waghdhare from StudioPOD, Mumbai, and Vidhya Mohankumar from Urban Design Collective, Chennai shared their work and had great insights for the students regarding the role of urban designers and the challenges faced by cities.

Master of Urban Infrastructure
 As a part of the ongoing guest lecture series, MUI students had lectures on topics such as The Cleaning Brigade - Issues and Concerns, Introduction on climate change and sustainability, Understanding the slums and slum free action plan of Ahmedabad and Decentralised Approach for liquid waste management by professionals namely Dr. Sanghmitra S. Acharya, Professor, JNU, Delhi, Mr. Saurav Chowdhury, Senior Programme Officer at WWF-India, Mr. Dhruv Bhavsar, Senior Program Lead, CWAS and Mr. Ganapathy P.G, Director (Programs) at CDD Society respectively.

Special Lecture Series

The Special Lecture Series being organized by the Foundation Studio 2020 team aims to bring experts, practitioners, academicians from the field of urban planning and design to introduce the many diverse aspects of the field to the incoming batch.

The first lecture in this series was given by Mr. B. R. Balachandran, an urban planner with over 25 years of experience, currently engaged in doctoral research at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. While engaged in research on post-disaster recovery in the US, he has continued to work on planning projects in India.

In the initial part of his lecture, Mr. Balachandran spoke in detail about his doctoral research topic on the role of planning in negotiating risk tradeoffs in disaster-induced relocation. Speaking about his journey, he discussed his work on post-earthquake Bhuj along with Dr. Bimal Patel, starting his firm in



Special Lecture # 1 by B. Balachandran

Balakrishnan Balachandran is an urban planner with over 25 years of experience, currently engaged in doctoral research at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. After 10 years at Environmental Planning Collaborative, Ahmedabad, in 2007, he co-founded Alchemy Urban Systems, a planning practice in Bangalore and also served in senior advisory roles at institutions such as CDD Society, BOPDA and ITDP. While engaged in research on post-disaster recovery in the US, he has continued to work on planning projects in India.

Friday, August 14, 2020 17:00 hrs

@ UTC 2020 - Input Lecture Link

Fig 02: Poster for the lecture | Source: Ankita Panchratna

Bangalore with his wife, his work on post-disaster relocation, and his decision to pursue a PhD. He also discussed in detail his work on post-floods Kerala, and his proposed model for Leh, Ladakh. He ended his lecture by revisiting his time at CEPT University and in Ahmedabad. Following this, he answered queries from students and faculties.

FP ACHIEVEMENTS

Religious Tourism and the Environment

Dr. Kiran Shinde, Professor at La Trobe University, Australia (M.Tech graduate 1995-97 from CEPT University) along with Daniel H. Olsen, Associate Professor at Brigham Young University, USA, has recently published the book 'Religious Tourism and the Environment'.

The idea for the book is a resultant of Dr. Kiran Shinde's long standing interest in understanding how sacred sites such as religious places and the environment are interconnected. Due to the remarkable growth of religious tourism, there have been considerable impacts on the environment. The book focuses on examining in greater depth, the intersections between religion, tourism, and the environment, where the environment acts as a resource or generator for religious tourism and as a recipient of impacts

of religious tourism. With case studies spanning Europe and Asia, this book will be of great interest to researchers and students of tourism and religious studies, as well as those studying environmental issues.

On a personal note, Dr. Kiran Shinde believes that the scope for the field of planning is immense and students should explore new ideas that they are passionate about, nurture and nourish them and venture into new fields like tourism and destination planning to name a few.

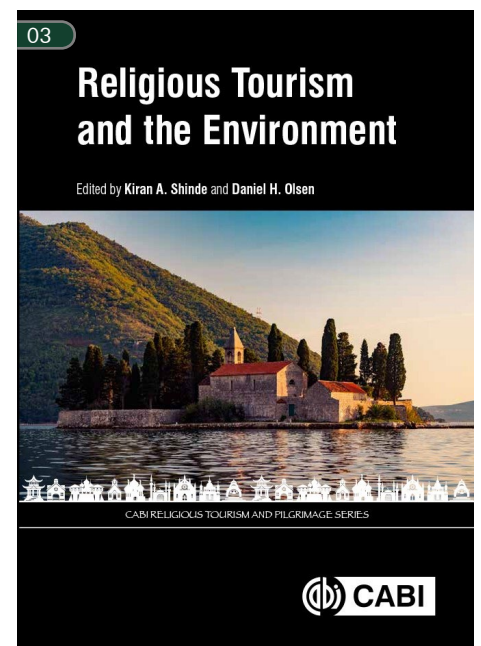


Fig 03: Book Cover - Religious Tourism and the Environment

KNOW YOUR ALUMNI

Mr. Dinesh Harode

Mr. Dinesh Harode is a Senior Urban Development (UD) Specialist who is currently working as a freelance UD Professional with over 23 years of experience in the field of Urban Planning and allied.

PR: How are you currently associated with the profession?

DH: I am currently leading an ADB project in Tamil Nadu on implementation of series of reforms related to Urban Governance &

Financial Management in 135 ULBs. I am currently leading a professional team of 25 specialists responsible for advising GoTN on an Asian Development Bank (ADB) supported Urban Governance Improvement



Fig 04: Mr. Dinesh Harode

Program under TNUFIP, through Commissionerate of Municipal Administration (CMA). Apart from that I am also currently advising on various Smart Cities of MP in implementation of project pertaining to urban renewal, waterbody conservation and smart solutions in urban infrastructure.

PR: Could you briefly describe your work profile?

DH: I have been working in the field of Urban Policy, Governance & Reforms, Planning, Design and Implementation of Infrastructure Projects with specialization in Urban Policy Advocacy, City Rejuvenation/Revitalisation, PPP Projects and Social and Environmental Safeguards. I specialize in the field of Project Management, Networking and Procurement skills, policy formulation and implementation of City Development Vision/Strategies, Urban Reforms, Social Development, Local Economic Development, etc. at State and National levels along with various International Forums. My key sector experience is varied across – Urban Infrastructure Planning, Service Level Benchmarking – Water Supply, Sanitation, Municipal Solid Waste Management, Storm Water Drainage, Municipal E-Governance and various other areas to strengthen and build capacities by Strategic Institutional Framework/Design.

PR: How has the transformation from your college life to your professional life been like?

DH: I worked for two years after

the college tenure with Prof. Barjor Mehta, Prof. Shivanand Swamy, Dr. S K Acharya, Dr. C N Ray and late Dr. S S Mehta as part of CEPT. Further moving ahead, I also worked across formulation of key projects while providing technical inputs in aspects of Climate Change and Environmental Improvement Action Plan while preparation of Revised City Development, along with procuring support for hiring of advisory services and goods in the World Bank supported Programme of CBUD in Ministry of Urban Development, GoI. I worked in providing conceptualisation & roll out of various ongoing Flagship Missions of MoHUA including Smart Cities, AMRUT, SBM & HRIDAY. My contributions also ranged on a variety of national and international projects including designing PPP model (E-Governance) for implementation of Self-Service Terminals in Doha, State of Qatar.

PR: Please share your experience apart from academics from your days at Faculty of Planning

DH: CEPT had been one of the golden periods of my life. It used to be only 18 months programme back then. For the first time, I had moved out of my core stream of Geography, and CEPT provided me with a new fresh atmosphere to understand how other fields function, along with various problem solving approaches working on plethora of projects. The various kinds of Planning Labs also allowed for both academic and personal growth during my tenure

at CEPT. The faculties had been so friendly and approachable as a good friend in need. All in all, this was a wonderful opportunity for me, that also seeped into my professional life.

PR: Any message(s) for presently enrolled students, especially considering the current circumstances?

DH: Yes, it is good to acknowledge that the COVID pandemic has put some constraints on the job market, however, the way planners can think like no other professionals can think and plan, and hence there comes a plethora of opportunities across the board. If you happen to get a chance to work in internship programs which as per me are live wires such as Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT, HRIDAY, etc. it would be a good exposure and opportunity to learn from senior professionals to handle day-to-day urban problems in climate resilient manner and take our cities to next level implementing range of innovative urban solutions. With the current pandemic, how the healthcare planning needs to be undertaken, make out cities safer with new normal. The future demands for initiatives to be undertaken due to COVID is paramount. One must move forward, and my suggestion to the fresh lot would be to find innovative ways to move forward, since they are more accustomed to recent technologies. A balance between experience and innovation is the key to find success for the fraternity as a whole.

CO-CURRICULARS @ FP



Fig 05: Possibilities of the Reconversion and Reuse by Giulia Setti | P.C.: Vidisha Dhar

INDUSTRIAL DISPOSAL:
Discontinuity and Fragments: possible stories?



...How to act on urban context and architectures different for their scale and morphology?

...How to build architectural strategies able to consider the diversity of the urban fabric as a design resource?

...The contribute will focus on the ways and the forms which intervene in the relationship between production, city and architectures in the increasingly disjointed contexts of contemporary city?

Informal Talks sessions with Dr. Navdeep Mathur and Giulia Setti

B.UD Informal Talks Series is an FP UG initiative to help students gain clarity about the discipline of Urban Design and seek to inform the students about the scope of the discipline. Professionals are invited to give informative lectures that are open to all.

In the month of August, BUD students organised two sessions as part of the Informal Talks Series by Dr. Navdeep Mathur and Giulia

Setti on 7 August 2020 and 28 August 2020, respectively.

In the session by Dr. Navdeep Mathur, he spoke about his views on the inclusive planning of public spaces and the processes it involves, in the Indian context. He also spoke about the same by visiting the case of Gujari Bazaar, which he sees as a historical artefact of a highly contested public space, especially in the post-covid scenario, where reducing density of people in public spaces would be crucial.

The session by Giulia Setti investigated the characters of the current forms of disposal, industrial and non-industrial, and the ways in which abandoned architectural forms could be transformed. The session also spoke about the possibility of the reconversion and reuse of these as new productive spaces and addressed the spatial aspects related to the strategies of reusing and recycling industrial fields, to understand which tools are necessary to transform these buildings.

Urban Powwow Concludes its Internship Series

Urban Powwow is an initiative by the students of B. UD, which seeks to organise a series of informal sessions for students to understand and explore the field of Urban Design.

The session by Ruju Joshi revolved around the work done by her at BandukSmith Studio, an award-winning architecture, urban design, and research practice based in Ahmedabad. Ruju spoke about her work in the architectural and urban scales, and showed the viewers some working drawings, along with talking about her experience of setting up the firm's material library.

The session by Khushali Haji and Shourya Dubey focussed on their experiences during the course of their internship at UDC Chennai, and also talked about their experiences of Chennai, as a city. Their work at the firm included coming up with unconventional and quirky, usually cost saving and economic, but always interesting and fun ways of engaging with people and cities.

The concluding session of the Internship Series was held by Shaurya Anand and Shivani Agrawal, who

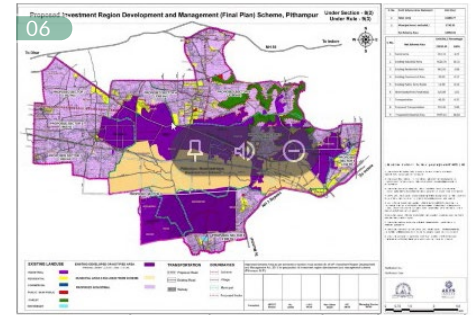


Fig 06: Analyzing urbanization through research & planning | P.C.: Srushti Rahigude

worked at Lucknow Development Authority and Town and Country Planning Organisation, Indore, respectively. Shivani spoke about her experiences at Indore, where she undertook research and planning of Indore, Mandu and Pithampur, and helped develop master/regional/local area plans and strategic plans. Shaurya, in his part of the session, talked about his role as a trainee in the Lucknow Development Authority, where he learnt about the master plan 2031. His internship work also included analyzing the effect of rapid urbanization and understanding building regulations and by-laws.

EXTRA-CURRICULARS @ FP

Anubhav- A Literary Club and Placement Cell Collaboration

The FP-Literary Club collaborated with the Placement Cell conducted a multi-episode series where the students of FP presented their experiences from internships.

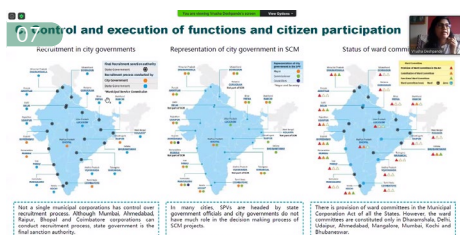


Fig 07: Sharing of work experience by the students | P.C.: Palaash Roy

In a two-episode event (subject to extension in future), the FP-Literary Club and the Placement Cell came into collaboration to bring "Anubhav" where students from FP-PG 2nd Year talked about their experiences and learnings during the summer internships. Students who worked in various organizations like CRISIL, ASCI, CWAS, Water4Change, CoE-UT, Madurai Smart City Corporation,

CULREP, CSE, JNPT and Black Olive Ventures. The students have interned during the COVID-19 pandemic both via offline and online, and their work showcased various topics such as municipal finances and budgeting, governance frameworks, green infrastructure, eco-tourism, FinTech cities, Master-planning, hydrological modelling, urban resilience, behavioural pattern of urban mobility, urban design aspects of sanitation and shocks & assessment during COVID-19. The event acted as a platform for both PG 1st and 2nd year batches of what and how the market demand is in the current times, and how they overlap with one's respective streams.

Jamming at FP Music Club

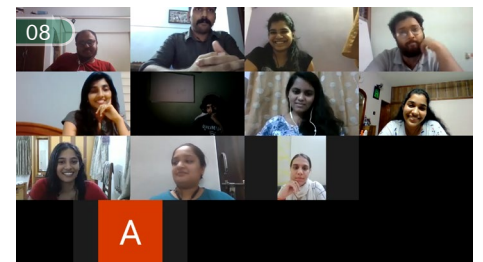


Fig 08: FP Music Club members meeting online | P.C.: Arjun P. B.

To take a break from rigorous academic activities, FP Music Club organized its second event of the Monsoon session-2020. The sessions organized were reprise for the students, and were helpful in realigning with their creative side as well.

SPECIAL SECTION - COVID 19

Safe Distancing Protocols for Indian Cities: A quick guide to Live Back Safer

A SSD guidebook has been developed by Dr. Saswat Bandyopadhyay, Professor at Faculty of Planning, CEPT University and a team of multi-disciplinary professionals, to support cities to develop city specific COVID safe strategies and actions.

As India unlocks itself, phase wise, it is now increasingly clear that our cities need to be prepared to handle COVID risks for a longer horizon. In order to live with the potential COVID risks, our cities need to initiate actions towards Safe Social Distancing protocols, SSD signages, COVID risk-sensitive urban design, WASH Infrastructure and strategies for urban spacing out and monitoring of the COVID Point of Interest (COVID- POIs).

This national guidebook has been developed through extensive review of protocols and guidelines of the Ministry of Health, WHO and UNICEF as well as by drawing various Asian and global good practices which may be structured in the following parts:

- a. Safe social distancing measures to be initiated at the city level
- b. COVID Safety protocols for important Urban Land Uses and Activities
- c. Mapping and Monitoring of COVID



Fig 09: Dr. Saswat Bandyopadhyay

Points of Interest (POIs) in an Urban area

d. Preparation of Urban Spacing Out Strategies (USOS) for the city

The city of Ahmedabad was chosen as a pilot demonstration site for grounding some of the above concepts.

Special Section with Mr. Lokendra Balasaria

Mr. Balasaria completed his Bachelors in Architecture at CEPT in 1990, and further did his Post Graduation in Urban and Regional Planning, in 1994. He was a visiting faculty at School of Architecture and School of Planning, CEPT University, Nirma University, and SAL School of Architecture. He has his own design consultancy, LaSpazio Designs Pvt. Ltd, and for the last 5 years he has been working extensively on environmental issues under the movement 'TREETWALKS'.

Our health is intricately connected to our environment. An example would be a place like Coorg in Kerala, where hospitals and health centres have fewer patients and hence less turnover. We were amazed to see fewer medical stores and doctor's clinics, unlike apnu Amdavad. These are lessons we learn from and incorporate in our working philosophy, part of which is driven by our environmental campaign, 'Health Gardening', where we talk about and promote growing plants that provide micro-nutrients and help remove free radicals to improve immunity of our body. We talk about importance of such plants and how to grow them at home and help in boosting immunity. One such plant is the superfood Moringa. Seed distribution, teaching people to grow, and also consume this plant has been very successful and around 6000 Moringa trees could be added to our city's green cover. With each tree capable of supporting about 6 families, this is a wonderful number for our city. People in other cities like Aurangabad, Gurgaon, Darjeeling,

Vijayawada, Hyderabad are now in touch with us and making efforts to grow Moringa in their cities. This also is the fastest growing plant in the 'tree' category, which also helps in environmental cleansing. Awareness like these helps people adopt environment-friendly practices, boost their immunity, be more accepting of the current scenario of COVID-19, and find solutions for the same.

Our focus is on how each one of us can help in improving the environment through everyday activities. Home composting, Non-Toxic Living, Urban Food Gardening, Rainwater harvesting, Butterfly Buddies, Meditative connection with trees, etc. are all aimed towards that. Such campaigns comprise of our voluntary awareness programs to educate people, wherein we also talk about various components of cities like urban water quality, air quality, rainwater recharging, toxicity and disease, non-toxic gardening techniques, tolerance, and co-existence, etc, by conducting free webinar series across the world.



Fig 10: Mr. Lokendra Balasaria

This is supported by continuous research in global environmental issues and examples from across the world, on how and what can be done in our cultural context for a more clean, non-toxic practices to help our society be healthy and more in tune with our environment – for the current COVID situation definitely demands a change towards a healthy lifestyle. COVID has definitely forced us all to wake up to a need for a better perspective on immunity and a healthy lifestyle – we feel a big answer lies in environmental co-existence.

This newsletter is a student body initiative. For any suggestions, feedback and queries write to us at - fp.newsletter@cept.ac.in

CREATIVE SECTION

Urban Sketch | By Avani Gajjar | 3rd Sem, MUTS

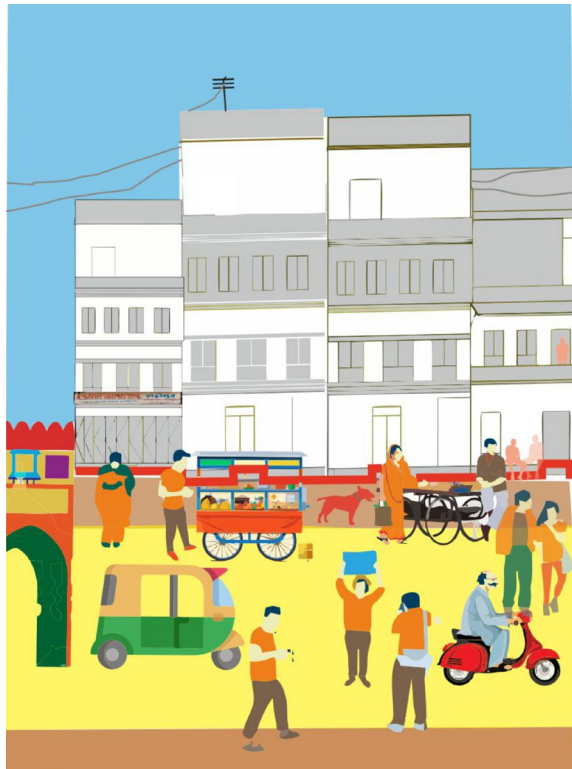


Illustration of Lal Darwaja Street market, Ahmedabad

Old City Market as a Public Space

One of the oldest markets streets in the walled city of Ahmedabad is known as Gandhi Road- a stretch from Lal Darwaza to Kalupur Railways Station, that acts as a public space amidst a mixed urban fabric comprising of residential, commercial and historical.



Illustration of Law Garden Street market, Ahmedabad

Market Street as a Public Space

The vibrant traditional clothing market on the edge of the law garden, where the edge is acting as a public space.



Illustration of Local vegetable market, Ahmedabad

Vegetable Market as a Public Space

The neighborhood-level vegetable markets in the city act as public gathering spaces in the evenings. These places are full of liveliness, one can say beautiful chaos.

With the COVID-19 pandemic, policy makers and city makers, especially architects, planners and designers need to reflect more on such spaces, and how to make them more functional, without compromising the safety of the users.