



April 09 – Week 18

IFLA meetings and events

Dr. Diane Menzies, IFLA President, traveled to Guatemala and Panama during March 12 to 17. While there she had two presentations planned in Guatemala and one in Panama in conjunction with Carlos Jankilevitch, IFLA's Americas region Cultural Landscape Committee chairperson who, with local people, had helped to organise the events. From Panama, Diane Menzies flew to Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) on March 18-19 to meet with IFLA 2009 Congress organisers to discuss about the organisation and visit venues. She then joined the rest of IFLA ExCo members in Brussels (Belgium) for the annual ExCo 'Spring' meeting held from 20 to 23 March. This was also the occasion for the ExCo to meet with UIA and Isocarp Presidents, Ms. Louise Cox and Mr. Pierre Laconte as well as with the René Pechère Library's members of the board of directors. Further Europe, Dr. Menzies met IFLA Africa Chair Prof. James Taylor in Cape Town (South Africa) first stop on an African tour which led them together and independently, apart from South Africa, to Malawi, Uganda, Kenya and Nigeria to discuss: the prospect of a 'Landscape architects without borders' project in Africa, the assistance which might be welcomed from ASLA chapters, education assistance, developing the African network and looking to future education opportunities. In Cape Town, they met with the Institute of Landscape Architects of South Africa (ILASA) members and split their duties in South Africa. Thus, Prof. James Taylor lectured in Pretoria and they did a presentation each at the university and led a workshop for Cape Town city. In Uganda, Dr. Menzies and Prof. Taylor met with the Minister of Lands and government officials and Architects Council and gave presentations each to different landscape architects groups to the university and a separate public one. Two German landscape architects based in Ethiopia, one of them lecturing to the landscape architecture university course in Addis Ababa, the other providing work opportunities in his office there accompanied IFLA's officers.

Visit of the International Federation of Landscape Architects President to Malawi

Malawi is a landlocked country that has a total area of 118,480 km² and a land area of 94,079 km² the rest of the area is mountains and water. It lies along the Rift Valley. It shares boundaries with Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania. The country has the third tallest mountain in Africa, Mulanje Mountain and has a fresh water lake called Lake Malawi, which was called Lake Nyasa when the country was called Nyasaland before becoming an independence state in 1964. Malawi has a population of 14 million people. In Malawi there are only two Landscape Architects namely, Abigail Achiona Khonje (Mrs.) and Yesetsani Kambewankako, and as such they have no voice to be heard in as far as infrastructure development is concerned. As such there is a problem that landscape works are not handled as well as they should be. Although there are very few landscape architects in Malawi, the governing body of IFLA, the World Council saw it fit to allow the President of IFLA Commissioner Dr. Diane Menzies and the IFLA Chair of Africa Forum Professor Emeritus James Taylor to visit Malawi. Dr. Diane Menzies and Prof. James Taylor were in Malawi from the 29th March 2009 to 31st March 2009. During these three days visit Dr. Menzies and Prof. Taylor made courtesy calls on government officials, met with professionals in the construction industry (Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Landscape Contractors). They also made a courtesy call on the Chief Executive officer of the Lilongwe City Assembly and the officer responsible for Parks and Recreation in the Lilongwe City Assembly. They also had meetings with the Principal and vice-principal of Bunda College, which is a constituent college of the University of Malawi. This visit was a follow-up to the IFLA Conference that took place in Dubai UAE in January 2008 where it was resolved that to develop and promote the profession of Landscape Architecture together with its related arts and sciences throughout the world, as one of IFLA objectives, professional development should be made through recognition and public awareness, education, capacity building just to mention but some. The objective of this visit was thus to find out specific issues for each of the African countries visited so that IFLA can start planning on how to assist the countries as they work on public awareness of the Landscape Architecture Profession in their countries and issues of education and training as well as capacity building. Dr. Diane Menzies and Professor Taylor presented public lectures at Bunda College to students and members of staff on Monday 30th March 2009. The visit was very successful and it is the hope of the writer that the issues discussed during this visit if implemented will surely promote the profession of Landscape Architecture in Malawi. **By Ms. Abigail Achiona Khonje, Malawi delegate to IFLA.**

Do you value your trees? Managing trees as capital assets

Tuesday 5th of May 2009 at Thistle Marble Arch Hotel Bryant Street (London). To express the value of a tree in financial terms complements but does not deny or undermine any of these existing senses of the worth of trees. It is rightly done only for particular purposes, and the test to apply is whether the proposed method of evaluation is fit for the particular stated purpose. The method also should be rational and realistic, and its results broadly in line with those of other methods of expressing value. The placing of a financial value on a tree can be important in various situations, ranging from the settlement of planning or insurance claims to the evaluation of the total capital worth of civic assets. The Seminar Programme has been designed to benefit: senior staff of Local Authority Departments responsible for Planning and Environmental, Planting, public and private sector tree officers, landscape architects, managers responsible for Parks, Open Spaces and Street Planting, commercial Organisations involved in provision of trees and planting, lecturers focusing on landscape, parks and cityscapes, consultants, insurance officers, public sector accountants, elected members. Get **10% discount** on registration fee for being a member of IFLA! For further information, please visit the International Federation of Park and Recreation Administration (IFPRA) at <http://www.ifpra.org/>

1st International Conference dedicated to the local implementation of the European Landscape Convention

Nove Hradý (Czech Republic), 27-30 May 2009. The aim of the Conference is to bring together key players from non-profits, Local Authorities, and ecomuseums in support of the European Landscape Convention and those who wish to learn more about the local, practical implementation of the ELC and how, for example ecomuseums or non-profits can help with this. The objectives are to share views about good practices in the implementation of the ELC among landscape observatories, local/regional authorities, and other local players like ecomuseums and non-profits; raise awareness among local and regional authorities of the opportunities provided by ecomuseums and local non-profits to deliver the objectives of the ELC; celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Council of Europe and to review progress in the implementation of the ELC; publish outcomes of the Conference and disseminate good practice in the implementation of the ELC and use the conference to give the ELC a practical and lasting local basis in the region. The conference is also a key element in a program of activities focused on promoting the ELC with local people and visitors. Other elements include also exhibitions and education trails on the ELC, education material, website, and a landscape day. Further information at <http://www.landscapeconventionconference.com/>

Thinking Landscape 04: Landscape & History

June 22-26 2009 at the Centro de Arte y Naturaleza - CDAN (Art and Nature Centre). Supported by the University of Zaragoza (Spain). The Centro de Arte y Naturaleza of Huesca (Spain). This 4th monographic course will study the relationships between landscape and history. In other words, the topics to be explored will involve the history and historiography of landscape, gardens and the image of cities, in an effort to bring together in Huesca representatives of the different tendencies currently at work in the historiography of landscape. The course will mainly consist of university-level theory and criticism, and the papers should contribute new elements to the research on landscape that is underway all over the world. The schedule includes a round-table discussion, a guided tour of the works of the "Art and Nature" project that are located in different parts of Huesca, and a visit with commentary to the exhibition of the Danish artist Per Kirkeby, which will be opening at the CDAN at the end of the course. Details at <http://www.cdan.es>

Society of Architectural Historians 63rd Annual Meeting

The Society of Architectural Historians calls for the **submission of abstracts by 15 August 2009** for the thematic sessions listed at <http://www.sah.org/clientuploads/TextFiles/Call4Papers2010.pdf> dealing, among others with *the source of the soul: water for pre-industrial gardens, redefining established concepts in the study of African architecture, counter-histories of sustainability, 200 + 50 = 2010: 250 years of modern Latin American architecture, territorial imperative: neighborhood units, superblocks and other modern techniques, geography in modern architectural theory and history, south Asian and exiled: modern architecture in the middle east and north Africa architectural and urban historiographies*. Abstracts of no more than 300 words should be sent directly to the appropriate session chair (see website). Abstracts should define the subject and summarize the argument to be presented in the proposed paper. Papers cannot have been previously published, or presented in public except to a small, local audience. Only one submission per author will be accepted. Thematic session chairs will notify all persons submitting abstracts to thematic sessions of the acceptance or rejection of their proposals by 12 September 2009. In addition to the thematic sessions, two open sessions are announced on any topic in architectural, urban, or landscape history. Those submitting to the Open Session will be notified by 22 September 2009.

European Commission report on Soil

The European Commission recently made public a report on the relationship between soil and climate change (CLIMSOIL) which underlines the crucial role that soils can play in mitigating climate change. The report "Review of existing information on the interrelations between soil and climate change" is available at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/review_en.htm. For further information on this issue plus draft lobby materials, please contact Pieter de Pous at Pieter.depous@eeb.org (European Environmental Bureau (EEB) Policy Officer, Biodiversity, Soil Protection, Agriculture and Water).

Master of Science degree programme

Starting in **October 2009** at the **HafenCity University** of Hamburg (Germany). The *Resource Efficiency in Architecture and Planning* (REAP) programme aims to enable participants to promote sustainable urban development in different geographical and cultural settings. Its main emphasis lies on technology for the provision of urban and building services, yet it also investigates the socio-economic context in which these services are provided and managed. The programme, addresses to people from all over the world, with a wide range of academic backgrounds and work experience (e.g. in Architecture, Urban Planning, Geography, Civil Engineering, Law, Political Science, Economics, Humanities or related fields), sharing an interest in technology and society and a concern for urban life. The Master of Science in "Resource Efficiency in Architecture and Planning" courses will be taught in English. For more detailed information, please check <http://www.reap.hcu-Hamburg.de>

Lincoln University's 40th anniversary

5-19 November 2009. The School of Landscape Architecture at Lincoln University (New Zealand) is celebrating the opening of the new purpose built building for Landscape Architecture and the 40 years of Landscape Architecture being taught at Lincoln University. Celebration will start with the Urban Ecology and Design Workshop on the Thursday, and the rest of the weekend will consist of a symposium, reunion activities, tours, a dinner/dance, and the official opening of the new building. The weekend will finish on Sunday afternoon. The programme is fluid at the moment and is liable to change, but the date is set, so please note them in your diaries! For further information, please contact Ms. Maria Ignatieva at ignat.m@gmail.com



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: HIGH PERFORMANCE LANDSCAPES

OCTOBER 21st -23rd 2009 RIO DE JANEIRO BRAZIL

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