

# **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.

# November 2005

## **CIB Student Chapters**

# Report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> CIB Student Chapters International Symposium held on 4-8 July 2005, Brisbane, Australia

by

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#### About the Symposium

The 3<sup>rd</sup> CIB Student Chapters International Symposium was organised this year by the CIB Student Chapter at QUT in association with the Student Chapter at Tsinghua University, China. The event was part of the QUT Research Week 2005 organized on July 4 – 8 2005 by the Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering, Queensland University of Technology, Australia, in collaboration with CIB (International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction), RICS (Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors), and AUBEA (Australasian Universities' Building Educators Association).

#### **Conference and Award Ceremony**

Nearly 50 students' papers were presented, half of which were coming from six CIB endorsed Student Chapters.

Prof. John McCarthy, a CIB Board member, gave a presentation about the linkage among industry, CIB research students, and their future career. Prof. McCarthy stressed the need to focus our research on 'improved value', which is what the industry is looking for.



CIB Best Paper Award St

Prof. McCarthy also delivered two "CIB Best Paper Awards" to the following papers:

- Management for Public Private Partnership Projects and Project Portfolios from an Investors Perspective, by Clemens Elbing and Hans Wilhelm Alfen, Risk Bauhaus-University Weimar, Germany
- Partnerships in affordable housing: the impact of conflicting investment criteria, by Connie Susilawati, Lynne Armitage and Martin Skitmore, Queensland University of Technology, Australia.

#### **Research Workshop**

In addition to the conference, a Research Day was organised by the CIB Student Chapters, including a workshop on research methodologies and guidelines for thesis writing.

Dilanthi Amaratunga and Richard Haigh, University of Salford, held the workshop. A number of questions pertinent to young researchers were discussed, such as:

- 1. When should a postgraduate student start and stop collecting research information?
- 2. How is research information used in the most effective way?
- 3. What is the most appropriate writing style and structure for a given thesis?
- 4. What concerns/problems should be addressed when writing the thesis?

#### **CIB Student Chapters Activities Showcase**

At this occasion, CIB Endorsed Student Chapters present at the conference gave a number of presentations including the following:



- The QUT PhD journey, by Konelio Tone, a recently graduated PhD student
- Reports from different CIB Student Chapters' activities
- A demonstration of the CIB SPIRIT website at <u>http://cibspirit.bre.polyu.edu.hk</u>, and how to use it for networking and communication among different Student Chapters was presented by James Wong, the immediate past president of the Hong Kong Polytechnic Student Chapter.



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#### **Related Meeting**

A combined CIB W089 BEAR (Building Education and Research), TG53 (Postgraduate Research Training in Building and Construction) and International CIB Student Chapters meeting was led by Prof. Martin Betts, Dean of Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering. Further opportunities for collaboration among Chapters and the development of a Work Program were discussed.

The meeting initiated further collaboration between W089, TG53 and Student Chapters in terms of coordinating joint meetings, activities and exploring the possibilities of sharing current resources such as CIB SPIRIT portal. It was decided to hold a similar joint meeting during the CIB W089 International Conference on Building Education and Research BEAR2006, taking place on April 10-13 2006 in Hong Kong, China PR.

## Additional Info

To find more about the outcome of the 3<sup>rd</sup> CIB Student Chapters International Symposium , please contact: Ms. Connie Susilawati at <u>c.susilawati@student.qut.edu.au</u>