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As a network of leading universities linking the Americas, Asia and Australasia, the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is the voice of knowledge and innovation for the Asia-Pacific region. We bring together thought leaders, researchers, and policy-makers to exchange ideas and collaborate on effective solutions to the challenges of the 21st century.

The Asia-Pacific has one of the world’s fastest rates of urbanization. The way in which this advances in the decades to come, will greatly impact the sustainability of the planet as a whole.

While cities across the Pacific Rim are diverse in their size and design, they are united by the shared challenges they face — from gentrification and spatial inequality to ecological degradation, loss of agricultural land, and extreme weather events. The Hub hosted by the University of Oregon seeks to enhance sustainability and resilience of cities and landscapes across the Pacific Rim in the face of continued urban expansion and climate change through actionable knowledge, policy impact, and advocacy. It will harness the breadth of experiences and socio-ecological contexts across the Pacific Rim to compare existing practices and models of city-landscape interactions, and to initiate solutions and policy interventions to make entire city-landscape complexes more sustainable.

Building on the success of the inaugural Conference, the 2018 conference hosted by HKU, will continue the working group frameworks and commitments to publications that address the issue of ‘agency’, which encompasses action-oriented research and advocacy.
This Working Group was initiated by collaborative policy-oriented research beginning in 2010 between the Univ. of Washington (UW), Sichuan University (SCU) and Southwest Jiaotong Univ. (SWJTU). The work focuses on the Sichuan Basin and the Duijiangyan Irrigation District, which has sustained a flourishing urban culture in the city of Chengdu for over 2000 years. The region has perhaps the highest per-hectare regional production of grain and is one of the most densely populated agricultural landscapes in China.

Considering the size of its beneficiary population over so long an historical period, Duijiangyan and its associated anthropogenic landscape may be the world’s most important example of a sustainable complex system dependent on a clearly defined act of design: the Duijiangyan headworks (currently protected under UNESCO World Heritage designation). During the past decade, however, and likely for the first time in its history, urbanization and globalization have introduced radical transformations to the Plain’s settlement pattern, land cover, and productive functioning.

Our research includes spatial and social surveys of agricultural communities at Chengdu’s expanding periphery, focusing on changes in landscape morphology, metropolitan and local governance and finance, regional watershed management, and national policies of urban development and food security.
Studies in the "healthy landscape and healthy people", researchers asked questions to fill the gap in the relationship of landscape and human health. What other advantages can nature provide to human being? What are the benefits that nature do to some specific groups? How should we adjust landscape design to help getting more natural areas in built environments? What are the criteria when designing restorative landscapes? To answer these questions, we did research about landscape ecological and figure out how do diversity of land cover types and species affect preference and mental health. Studies evaluated preference, psychological health benefits and physiological health benefits of different kinds of landscape, for example urban, mountain, forest, seashore, streams. They also discussed the characteristics of images, such as spatial frequency, to examine the attention restoration effect. Furthermore, studies did the researches of different groups, for example students and elders. On the other hand, they used functional magnetic resonance imaging instruments to examine brain activities while people were viewing different landscapes and doing tasks such as attention restoration. Still, in the field of landscape and health, there are more to be explored. Hence, by this working group, we would like to invite experts from other countries to share and discuss the knowledge of this field further with each other, and get inspired.

In this working group, we will ask questions about the core concept, landscape and human health and discuss under several aspects:

1. Research
   - Healthy biodiversity indicators
   - Landscape type analysis
   - Green infrastructure
   - Place perception and meaning
   - Healthy (psychological and Physiological) indicators

2. Application
   - Therapeutic landscape planning and design
   - Friendly environment for elders
   - Supportive environment for students
   - Healthy green infrastructures

This working group will continue to explore the shift in urban agriculture based on a model of productive urban ecologies, and specifically the notion of landscape infrastructure at the intersection of the spatial, social, and ecological. This model expands the notion of urban agriculture from disparate small-scale projects and re-conceptualizes it as an integration of productive typologies within the urban fabric, moving toward a renewed vision of green infrastructure as an integral and productive part of the fabric in future cities. This work aims to shape potential urban and landscape futures of equity, access and health in a context of landscape democracy, environmental justice, and food security.

Urban agriculture, if it is to become integrated into the city, needs landscape architectural thinking in order to be woven into the larger urban fabric. Thinking at the scale of ecosystems running through a city creates a framework for spatial change.
The Sustainable Urban Design Working Group gathered experts from around the world to research and discuss sustainable urban design approaches in their regions. The goal of this group was to share knowledge so that we can better understand the particularities of context as well as help identify more general, universally applicable approaches and ways of thinking. The working group invited researchers and practitioners from a range of disciplines including urban design, architecture, landscape architecture, planning, ecology, and engineering, to name a few.

Researchers from different parts of the Pacific region will gather in this working group to consider the various aspects of Smart Cities as an emerging global trend. As we are arriving the fourth industrial revolution, smart technologies are gradually reshaping the contemporary cities including the physical environment and everyday life. Governments have deployed various plans and policies to implement these new smart technologies to address the existing urban issues as well as prepare the cities for the fourth industrial revolution as a divers of change in future. This working group will review and compare their cities’ plans and policies that have been prepared and implemented by both the central and local governments around the region.

This working group will investigate the different capacities of smart technologies such as Electric Autonomous Vehicles (EAVs) to attain sustainable development. Smart technologies provide a new source of information such as Big Data that assists in providing new understandings of the cities functions. This group will investigate the new capacities of Big Data for urban policy making. However, scholars have conceptualised smart cities in various ways. This working group will focus on how smart city as a new concept is largely used to generate indexes for city-branding and place-marketing in the global market.

The focus of this group covered a variety of scales ranging from the region to the district and neighborhood, the street, and down to the parcel. While this range is admittedly broad, the focus of this working group was primarily to understand and identify the overlaps and connections between scales and goals. The complexity of this issue requires multidisciplinary approaches that can break down silos and help define the relationships between approaches and areas of expertise.
In cities throughout the Pacific Rim, waterfronts are hybrid spaces of transition and development. Urbanization has wrought profound environmental damage in these zones of previously rich biotic life and primary productivity: additionally, the social, economic, and environmental benefits that waterfronts enable and support are unevenly distributed among human populations of urban regions, so that they are sites of accumulated inequity, accessible and generative for a relatively small percentage of the people living in a metropolitan area. Because waterfronts and in particular their maritime and port functions have been shaped by dominant patterns of competitive development, many coastal cities have struggled to reclaim the regional bio-function and broadly shared cultural values of these urban spaces. This working group sets forth an agenda for better understanding changes underway for urban waterfronts on two key dimensions: performance and access.

Performance encompasses the mechanics of what happens in waterfront spaces, including typological configurations of economic performance (shipping, trade, tourism, retail); environmental performance (species diversity, catchment morphology, biological health); and social performance (parks, trails, open shorelines, docks).

Performance acknowledges that some uses will be prioritized over, or negotiated against others, and helps to illustrate, in empirical terms, the trade-offs involved. Access adds an explicit equity frame to such assessments, helping to surface the values that underpin typological distinctions among different waterfront configurations. Hierarchies of access will be examined through analysis of performance typologies, and also, importantly as they relate to discourses of development, politics, design and sustainability, and to governance structures and institutional norms that reach far beyond the scale of the waterfront itself.

The context: traditional regulatory drivers and research emphasize protected species, sensitive ecosystems, and more natural environments, while urban biodiversity initiatives that focus on novel ecosystem types are advancing with limited scientific basis or best practice frameworks. Often under the umbrellas of sustainability planning, infrastructure upgrades, or architecture and urban design, decision makers are tackling challenges that include understanding urban biodiversity patterns and processes; enhancing designed landscapes from site to regional scales; increasing equitable access to nature and native biodiversity; balancing increased density and connections with nature; and applying emerging design paradigms like biophilia and biomimicry. This working group attempted to bridge ecological sciences, urban design and planning, and social sciences to explore emerging challenges facing researchers, practitioners and decision makers.

Cities are increasingly working to support native biodiversity in the built environment. The reasons range from protecting and restoring regional ecosystems to the benefits of access to nature for urban residents. In this working group, we explored how the goals and reasons for promoting urban diversity vary across the landscapes and cultures of the Pacific Rim. What should we be attempting to achieve, and where and how? What are the limiting factors? Through what frameworks or standards might we guide decisions about the goals we set in different landscape contexts? What are the key factors that limit our ability to reduce ecological harm from cities, and is it even conceivable that cities can contribute to regional biodiversity rather than diminishing it?
Renewable energy has great potential to increase the resiliency of the power system through decentralization, battery storage, and microgrids. This is especially important for remote areas, islands and coastal communities. Given the increasing frequency of natural disasters, this group will explore the planning and policy strategies for fostering resilience within energy grids and communities across the Pacific Rim through renewable energy. The group will explore case studies of resilient energy systems from the perspectives of both climate change mitigation and adaptation. The intended outcomes of this working group include a conference book chapter and a potentially a peer-reviewed paper.

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This workgroup will build on the ongoing engagement among working group members since the 2017 APRU SCL conference, and will expand its scope of work to include research on the emergence of distinct peri-urban territories that help with urban containment while serving as urban-rural linkage. The research will examine how such territories support fluid ecological, cultural and socio-economic flows critical to a region’s sustainability and livability, as well as the new (innovative) typologies for human occupation of these territories.

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The questions to be addressed will likely include:

What are the important conditions critical to peri-urban territories’ goals of controlling growth while supporting the flows?

What are the critical factors affecting the performance of rural-urban boundaries and their territories?

What contextual factors or conditions help explain which approach is more appropriate?

Can different approaches be transferable across places and contexts? What is the role of ‘design’ both as a tool for communicating these boundaries and territories and proposing future scenarios for their conditions?
Climate changes place increasing stresses on existing sociotechnical systems, both in cities, and those that support cities (e.g. electricity grids, water systems, transport systems, as well as increased heat exposures, increased flooding in cities and more). We propose a panel that explores how modernist sociotechnical systems – or a lack of alternative approaches – may enhance human vulnerability in cities due to impacts of a changing climate.

We welcome participants who work on water, energy, housing, urban form and the impacts of modernist sociotechnical systems – or a lack of alternative approaches – impact the health and resilience of urban dwellers.
The Design Field School is running as part of the APRU conference based in HKU in parallel to the main conference and brought together students for participating universities to explore issues of modernization and its impact on the sustainability of some south-east Asia’s most remarkable natural landscapes and urban communities, including the sprawling urban megalopolis of Surabaya in East Java, the rich volcanic landscapes of Eastern Java, the cultural splendor of the island of Bali, and the high-rise high density urban living in Hong Kong.

Key issues to be explored in the Field School include:
- Migrant labour and changes in gender roles as economic drivers
- Modernisation through air transportation and digital communication
- Eco-tourism and environmental conservation
- Threats and benefits - agriculture and resource extraction
- Impacts of climate change on coastal communities
- Desakota as the ultimate rural-urban settlement paradigm
- Public health and education - as metrics for sustainable communities

Participating students have exploded a number of tropical sustainability issues, including modernization, agricultural intensification, resource extraction, eco-tourism, environmental conservation, impacts of climate change, desakota rural-urban settlement, migrant labour; changes in gender roles, public health and education. The field school was led by academic instructor from the Division of Landscape Architecture at HKU, in partnership with local academics and environmental or social groups in Java and Bali.

East of Java references the 1969 American disaster film Krakatoa, East of Java, a story of the massive eruption of the Krakatoa volcano in 1883. The "geographic error in the film’s title of placing the doomed island east of Java" (Krakatoa lying in the Sunda Strait, to the west of Java) was symbolic of the broad disinterest that the film makers (and a western audience) had of the landscape and people of Java at the time. Java, once a global centre of trade (spice, timber) under Dutch colonial rule, lost much of its influence at the end of the colonial period, and with the upheaval of Japanese occupation during the war, followed by the struggle for independence and then the period of dictatorship under Suharto, it faded into international obscurity, especially when compared to its diminutive island neighbour, Bali (which is East of Java). Sudden liberation following the end of the Suharto period led to rapid modernisation, and sizeable changes in the Indonesian economy and society. In recent decades there have been big improvements in public health and educational standards and notable shifts in gender roles (remittances from migration women serving as domestic helpers overseas are a key factor). Yet due to the chronic lack of investment in road and power infrastructure, and an archaic land ownership system, Java is still today a broadly rural community. Development has been local and small scale, resulting in a constrained desakota form of dispersed urbanism (as in many SE Asian countries), and an economy still based on primary industries (agriculture and mineral extraction) and specialist eco-tourism. The recent rise of alternative modes of development based on cheap local air transport and mobile telecommunications, however, is again offering potential new ways ahead.
Breakfast Excursions

- Friday 7/Sep 07:00-09:00
- Saturday 8/Sep 07:00-09:00
- Sunday 9/Sep 07:00-09:00

B1. Aberdeen fish market / wholesale fish market – Aberdeen waterfront, sampan trip around the Harbour
   Bus / taxi

B2. Western Waterfront – Sun Yat Sen Park (Taichi?), Instagram Peer, Kennedy town waterfront, Forbes Street wall trees
   Kennedy Town MTR (Exit C)

B3. First tram – Whitty Street to Percival Street, Causeway Bay, … and MTR return

B4. First Star Ferry – Central to TST, TST waterfront, Nathan Road, Chung King Mansion, Haiphong Road … and MTR return
Conference Dinner
at Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club

Date: 8 September, 2018
Time: 1830-2100
Venue: Compass Room, RHKYC

Coaches to RHKYC at 1745 from HKU Main Building and return to HKU at 2100.

Afternoon Site Visits

- Thursday 6/Sep 10:00-14:00 (G1 / G2 / G3)
- Friday 7/Sep 14:00-18:00 (G1 / G2 / G3 / G4 / G5 / G6 / G7 / G8 / G9 / G10)

**G1. Central - HK heritage**
Hollywood Road, Possession Point, Po Hing Fong/Tai Ping Shan, Man Mo Temple, Lascar row, Police Married Quarters and Tai Kwun Prison (major adaptive re-use projects)

**G2. Central / Tamar - HK past and present**
HSBC, Legco, Cheung Kong Centre, St John’s Cathedral, HK Park, Flagstaff House, Asia Society, Central Government Offices, Tamar Park, Central Waterfront, Ferry Piers, IFC

**G3. Stanley - waterfront, tourism development**
Old Police Station, St Stephens college, War Cemetery, Pat Kan Uk, Stanley market / waterfront / plaza, Murray House

**G4. Wanchai Heritage - conservation issues in a high density city**
Li Tung Street, Queens Road East (temple), Wanchai Sub-post Office, Blue House, Pak Tai temple, Wanchai Market (below East Point)

**G5. Kowloon Bay - Kowloon Bay urban district revitalization, industrial renewal, sustainable development, Megabox, Kai Tak Nullah rehabilitation, Zero Carbon Building**

**G6. Kowloon Tong - re-vitalisation of industrial waterfront areas, Hoi Bun Road Park, Kai Tak Cruise Terminal Energizing Kowloon East smart city, Kai Tak development**

**G7. West Kowloon Cultural District - mega development**

**G8. Urban rooftop farms / HKHA community farms**
City Farm / Hing Wah Estate

**G9. Mass public housing - Shek Kip Mei to Kai Tak, via Choi Hung**

**G10. Shatin Sewage Treatment / HATS / SSDS / Island West Transfer Station**
Coach service available
Conference Venue Location (in HKU)

Conference Venues - 3/F Library

For 2nd Plenary Session on Saturday only.
Working Group Rooms
- Main Building 1/F

Legend

- Urban Renewable Energy (RM125)
- Productive Cities. Infrastructural Ecologies (RM126)
- Urban Water and Sanitation (RM127)
- Smart Cities (RM132)
- General office (RM124)
- Snacks and Drinks

- Lavatories
- Corridor
- Drinking fountain
- Escape Routes
- Staircase
- Lift

- Lake Yew Hall
- Court Yard

- Main Building 2/F

Legend

- Urban Biodiversity (RM224)
- Vulnerable Communities (RM225)
- Urban–rural Linkages (RM226)
- Transitions in Urban Waterfront (RM203A)
- Landscape and Human Health (RM234)
- City–Landscape Sustainability (RM235)
- Sustainable Urban Design (RM236)

- Lavatories
- Corridor
- Drinking fountain
- Escape Routes
- Staircase
- Lift

- Great Hall
- Court Underneath
- Flat
- Stage
- Delivery
Sept, 6 (Thursday)

- **1630 – 1730** Registration
  - 4/F Knowles Building (KB423)
- **1730 – 1830** First Plenary Session
  - 4/F Knowles Building (KB419)
- **1830 – 1930** Cocktail Reception
  - Hung Hing Ying Building
- **1930 – onwards** Evening Excursions (Optional)

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Sept, 7 (Friday)

- **0700 – 0900** Breakfast Excursions (Optional)
- **0930 – 1100** Working Group Session (1)
  - 1&2/F Main Building
- **1100 – 1115** Morning Coffee
  - 1/F Main Building Courtyard
- **1115 – 1230** Working Group Session (2)
  - 1&2/F Main Building
- **1245 – 1400** Lunch
  - Metropol Restaurant, Admiralty
- **1400 – 1800** Site Visits / Working Group Discussion
- **1830 – onwards** Evening Excursions (Optional)

Sept, 8 (Saturday)

- **0700 – 0900** Breakfast Excursions (Optional)
- **0930 – 1115** Second Plenary Session
  - 3/F Main Library (Multi-purpose room)
- **1115 – 1130** Morning Coffee
  - 1/F Main Building Courtyard
- **1130 – 1245** Working Group Session (3)
  - 1&2/F Main Building
- **1245 – 1400** Lunch
  - Hung Hing Ying Building
- **1330 – 1730** Site Visits / Working Group Session (4)
- **1830 – 2100** Conference Dinner
  - Royal HK Yacht Club
- **2100** Return Coaches to HKU

Sept, 9 (Sunday)

- **0700 – 0900** Breakfast Excursions (Optional)
- **0800 – 0930** SC/ WG Leaders Meeting
  - 4/F Knowles Building (KB415A)
- **0930 – 1045** Working Group Session (5)
  - 1&2/F Main Building
- **1045 – 1100** Morning Coffee
  - 1/F Main Building Courtyard
- **1100 – 1300** Third Plenary Session
  - 4/F Knowles Building (KB419)
- **1300 – 1430** Final Plenary Session
  - 4/F Knowles Building (KB419)