

PiCAGRAM

PILLAI COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE, NEW PANVEL

FOREWORD

Welcome to the fourth edition of PiCA's bi-annual newsletter - PiCagram, our up to the minute newsletter. The newsletter is structured with an assortment of academic design studio projects, activities and the achievements of students of B.Arch. and M.Arch. which becomes the base for our discussion with you all. This year has been a little off the grid for PiCA as our students of M.Arch. have brought laurels to the school by winning competitive projects and attending workshops initiated by organizations in the architecture fraternity. The student body initiated a new idea of vertical integration across the school by hosting various interactive events which boasted the student interaction bringing in discussions on a variety of subjects. This year has been special for M.Arch. (Urban design) students as they successfully hosted MUTATION 2019 - An annual design exhibition.

The articles in PiCagram are written with the support from participating students and faculty members. We hope you find them interactive and useful. We welcome your suggestions on both the form and content of this newsletter. Please send your comments and feedback to the editor of this newsletter.

Kiran Patel

General Secretary

SENATE - The Student Council Body Of PiCA

KINESTHESIA 2020

Glass Mosaic

The workshop was conducted on day 1 under the guidance of Anita Punjabi. She elaborated the process of glass cutting & pasting initially. The workshop commenced with students being divided into 3 groups & materials being distributed. 'The Starry Night' by Vincent Van Gogh was opted for the workshop & each group illustrated two panels to complete the painting. The later part included the process of plastering the panels. The working techniques, cutting & pasting were finished by the end of the day.



Word Building

The workshop was conducted on day 1, led by Aastha Deshpande. It was initiated by the jumbling of words & their depiction into diagrams. This was conducted by the students in groups of 2 & 3.

B.Arch. & M.Arch. URBAN DESIGN 2019-20

The later part of the workshop focused on building a narrative using the words & paragraph readings. The workshop was conducted for the entire day.

Hands on Wheels with Clay

This workshop was conducted on day 2 under the guidance of Satish Joshi. He elaborated the preparation process of the clay & provided a demonstration for statue making. The students were segregated into 4 groups & were given fun live tasks to illustrate any interesting, surrounding live scene using plaster statues of human body parts. The workshop was conducted for the entire day.

Conversations Around Conservation

The workshop which was a site visit was conducted on day 2 under the guidance of Nitya Iyer. Starting with the CST station, she explained the history of Bombay briefly from Bombay being a fort until British rule. The walk consisted Asiatic Library, Navy head office, St. Thomas Cathedral, Prince of Wales museum and Kala Ghoda. After covering the Gothic style, some art deco buildings like New India Assurance Headquarters was seen. The walk ended at Horniman Circle where students assembled in group of 4 to create a mind mapping based sketch based on the structures seen in their own way. The Workshop concluded with everyone's review on the work of every group.



POP Moulds shaped by human body parts

Urban Sketching

The Workshop was conducted on day 3 by Parvathi Chavan and Pulkit Gupta. It was started with students and faculty gathering near Ballaleshwar Temple in Old Panvel. Students were guided by showing some of the sketches which faculty members had sketched out at various locations of Navi Mumbai. For sketching, students were given 1 hr to sketch out anything from the premises. Sketching was followed with Q and A session helping the students to clarify all the doubts. Faculty guided the students on 2 major factors viz. Proportionate sketching and Minimal Rendering. While concluding, faculty members advised the students to keep practicing.



City Paused (Street Photography)

The workshop was held on day 3 under the guidance of Prof. Sarvesh Kulkarni. Students were assembled at Mankhurd station at 8.30. The Walk was conducted in the slum area of Bombay, which depicted the rawness of the city. Students clicked many photographs depicting the city and crowding humans across the slums. After the walk, the faculty and students returned to the college at 3' o'clock, where they discussed the photos captured by students.

The

Urban Sketching



Prof. Jinu Kurien hosting the Mindscape 2020



'The Future of India Talk is YOUTH' by Nikhil Taneja

The final talk by poet Piyush Mishra, giving us an insights of this life through Hindi-Urdu Poetry. The day ended with a spectacular performance by Alif, a band lead by Mohammed Muneem, Karan Chitra Deshmukh and Hardik Vaghela.

On the final day of Mindscape we had screening of the Film : Kalyan Smritigandha . Gondhal : A folk Theatre of Maharashtra was presented to us by a group of Gondhals from Parbhani . Next was Nikaytaa, a fashion blogger from Pune, who introduced the audience to the broad expanse and diversity of a saree. The Festival ended with the screening of another highly acknowledged documentary : 'Aunty Sudha, Aunty Radha' a Tale about two sisters, Sudha and Radha who stay in their home in North India .

Purva Rane

Mindscape 2020 expanded its course in various new fields of Art ,Films, Drama,Music , and Architecture. The Day 1 began with the conversation with the Artist Sudhir Phadke on 'The City and Me : Ways of relating to the City' a series of his paintings under that title. The discussion was followed by the screening of the acclaimed movie 'Lovely Villa : Architecture as Autobiography' brought to us by the creators Rohan Shivkumar and Avajit Mukul Kishore .

The next day was packed with an opening talk by Siddharth Agarwal on the stories from walking around India, bringing in limelight the lives of marginalized communities. The next talk was given by Nikhil Taneja, founder of weareyuvaa who gave us a gist of the rollercoaster ride inside the mind of Millennial Gen Z kid.

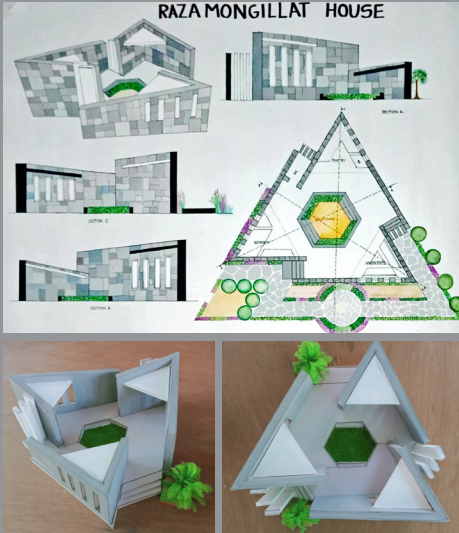


Musical Performance of a fusion of contemporary and ethnic genre by the band Alif.



Classical Musical Performance by Piyush Mishra

Architectural Design Studio - II



Prajakta Khadse

For Semester 2 AD the topic introduced was 'Artist Villa' in which every student was asked to choose the idol whom they admire the most. This was followed by listing the daily, monthly and yearly schedule of the chosen artist.

The site was located just opposite to Ajanta caves (UNESCO World Heritage Site) near Aurangabad. The area of the site was 100 sq.m. and it sat on the cliff with the beautiful water fall around it. It gave panoramic view of Ajanta caves from the nearby hills. The waterfall, the greenery and the cool breeze gave a pleasant feeling.

The topic made everyone explore the ideas of dynamism in the structural design. Taking inspiration from the idol interpreting those thoughts into design was the focus of this studio.

Architectural Design Studio - IV

Semester 4 AD studio was focused on "Contextual architecture" or "Vernacular Architecture" as main thrust area and the site for the proposed Centre for heritage interpretation and vocational training centre was located in Badami, Karnataka. The land was a 'greenfield' vacant site located amidst the Tattakodi village with deeply rooted culture and huge boulder hills around. The project began with in depth documentation of Tattakodi village as part of college tour in terms of land-use, socio cultural

aspect, natural landscape, street documentation which helped to understand the major issues of villagers such as lack of infrastructure, women empowerment with respect to occupational sector & floated design proposal which included vocational training for all age groups, dispensary, common toilet serving infrastructural needs of villagers & heritage interpretation center from the point of view of Tourism. Therefore, the challenge was framed to understand the history, heritage of Badami, solve the infrastructural problems and come up with solution that reflected culture and regional context in its architecture.



Anju Pillai

Architectural Design Studio - VI

AD Sem 6 project is about understanding nature of urban institutions, context and character and creating architectural forms and spaces according to it. Our site was located in urban context of Dadar, near Gokhale Marg, which has important landmarks like the Siddhivinayak Temple and Rachana Sansad College of Architecture.

The site is present on a busy street having lot of shops, plazas, schools, chawls, old settlements and temples nearby. The site's close context has Mix-Landuse which are Commercial at lower levels and Residential above them. It has redeveloped high-rise buildings in the front. The site area is 2400 sq.m and has trees like the Banyan tree, Mango tree and Ashoka tree. Because of its important location and educational institutions near-by, a need for Public Library and Digital Convenience Centre for everyone in the area was found. Also, since the area is having various other important features, adding other functions to grab more people was necessary.

Hence an Art Gallery, Learning Centre, Kindergarten and Café were added. Challenges that

one could face while designing here is a structure that fits into context, attracts more people, without disturbing the location of trees, including the temple and lane's people onto site. Because of a smaller plot, Vertical rise in proper way becomes necessary with height restrictions of 24m.

Revathi Kamthankar



IIT Kanpur campus photograph by Dhiraj Kale



Er. Arvind Mandke in session with the students

The extent and amount of damage caused by fire is very important in understanding the relevance of the subject in Architectural design. The event was attended by the students of third year Architecture.

Workshop on “Fire Fighting – Norms and Dealing with Fire”

The Workshop conducted by Er. Arvind Mandke, CFO, CIDCO. The workshop commenced with the interactive discussion on what is firefighting and why it is important in building design.



The Principal and professors discussing with Er. Arvind Mandke.

WORKSHOPS

Faculty Workshop on “Accessibility Audit of Built Environment”

Mr. Danesh Kanagaraj, disability activist from Aclude Foundation was invited to conduct an interactive session with faculty members on the subject of accessibility in a built environment. Aclude Foundation is a Navi Mumbai based – Non profit organization – an initiative that works with persons with disabilities in areas of built environment accessibility, employment and inclusive training.

Mr. Danesh shared his personal experiences of difficulties of accessing buildings, spaces inside and also challenges faced by persons with disabilities in other public spaces. He also appraised of his role as accessibility auditor. He also appraised of NNMC’s intention of making public buildings accessible. Prof. Nandgirikar suggested to approach CIDCO and NNMC for including specific guidelines in the DC rules to implement right solutions at design and approval stage.



Faculty members in session



Mr. Danesh Kanagaraj discussing the subject of accessibility



Students in session by members of ACLUDE



Prof. Reshma Sathe along with the members of ACLUDE

Student Workshop on “Accessibility Awareness”

Mr. Danesh Kangaraj, conducted another session with the students of PiCA. In the session, he explained the problems faced by differently abled people in navigating city streets and public transport. The focus of the talk was on making students aware of the accessibility issues in public places.

The purpose of the session is to inform students that accessibility matters for all, and people with disabilities should have the same rights as the wider population — and that includes their ability to engage with, learn from and communicate. By designing for accessibility, we create more opportunities for disabled people to utilize the accessible built environment and at the same time, support diversity and inclusion. About 100 students enrolled for being volunteers for the upcoming Audits with Aclude.

The Aclude foundation aims to bring at least a little improvement in the otherwise secluded lives of persons with disabilities.

GUEST LECTURES

Guest Lecture on “Design Variable and Design Intent”

The guest lecture by Dr. Sushma Joglekar intended to make students of Semester 10 understand the linkage between the research and the design process. How the research conduction process should be reflected in the concept and design development, how different approaches can be built with respect to the particular thesis framework, how the design could act as solution to the identified issues during the research work were discussed.

The lecture proceeded to the discussion of thesis topics by a few students and their take on design. This discussion gave an overall direction to all the students in terms of the pre-design and design processes.



Semester 10 students in the session with Dr. Sushma Joglekar

Guest Lecture on “Professional Ethics & Code of Conduct”

Prof. Minal Modak explained the history of Architect's Law since independence. He highlighted the importance of registering with COA and how it gives us a right to practice throughout India. IIA's role was explained and the students were informed about IIA chapters in the vicinity.

The aim was to discuss Professional Ethics and Code of Conduct by narrating various practical experiences and conflict situations and highlighting the importance of adhering to the Professional Code of Conduct. Importance of documentation was explained and Minal gave examples of his practice when communication issues could have got the architect into trouble.



5th year students in the session

Guest Lecture on “Career Guidance”

Prof. Sabu Francis aimed to create awareness among 5th year students about the opportunities available in profession related to architecture, allied and computer software fields. He emphasized on architecture being mother of several arts and hence opens up career opportunities in various allied domains like photography, art, advertisement, media and graphics etc.

He stressed on the presence of stiff competition in the outside world and how young architects need to be prepared for various challenges. Sabu Francis talked about how youngsters need to be

prepared for these changes that will be in store for them in the future. He introduced his software TAD and explained its benefits. He explained how the students can take up programming to resolve issues that are faced while using available software.



Prof. Sabu Francis conducting the session

STUDENT EVENTS

MES Panvel Campus Model

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Mahatma Education Society, the students of Pillai College of Architecture made a model of our beautiful and prestigious campus.

The model was inaugurated in the annual festival of Pillai College, 'ALEGRIA 2019-2020'.



Model of Pillai's College, Panvel's Campus

Felicitation Ceremony 2019-20

The Felicitation Ceremony was hosted by Kiran Patel (5th Year) and Nikunj Deshpande (3rd Year). The ceremony began with Prof. Tejashree Lakras giving a brief of the 'Kalyan Smrutigandha' project to the audience. This was followed by the screening of the documentary 'Kalyan Smrutigandha'. After the screening, the winners of competitions that took place in Alegria 2020 were awarded by certificates. Participants of all three days of the Kinesthesia Value Added Course Workshop, which were from 1st Year and 2nd Year batch were given certificates. Principal Dr. Sudnya Mahimkar awarded the certificates to winners of Academic Excellence Awards.



Principal awarding the certificates to the winners

Traditional Day 2019-20

Traditional Day was an event where the faculty and the students came together on the stage to showcase their talents on the occasion of Marathi Bhasha Divas. All the faculty members and students were dressed up in traditional attires for the event. The event ended with a special ramp walk by students of first and fifth years and a group photo.

The event was also accompanied by the release of the cover page of the annual magazine VoX- The Voice of PiCA.



Faculties dressed up in traditional attires

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