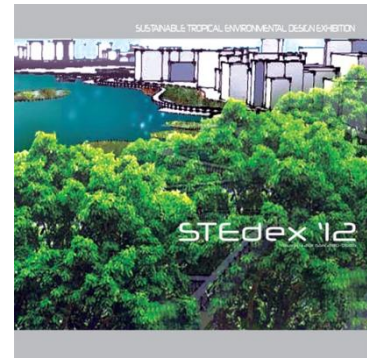


Jury Review - Engagement with Nature

Sustainable Tropical Environmental Design Exhibition 2012

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STEdex'12 – Nik Ismail Azlan Rahman, Ismail Said, Charles Teo Kae Siang & Saravanan a/l Lingeswaran, ***Jury Review - Engagement with Nature, Sustainable Tropical Environmental Design Exhibition 2012***, ISSN : 2180-0685, Vol : 4, [26-27], Faculty of Design and Architecture, Universiti Putra Malaysia

The Rhapsody of Bamboo by Nik Ismail Azlan Rahman

This is a highly innovative solution to a residential design. A brave venture indeed for the student in coming up with new ideas in building construction using bamboo. The concern would be whether the bamboo can wither the effects of our weather and other natural process. An in-depth research could help in developing sound and sustainable any design solution especially when using bamboo as part of the foundation of the house within an environment of green living. Research and development could entail further contribution to the design effort of using bamboo as the main building material. The decorative function of the upper level of the house could be a subject of safety and security concerns. The student is commended for coming up with such innovative idea. If the design idea is feasible it could lead to commercialization of the product and sustainability of the design. A product design of this nature is very novel and could be the beginning of a new input in tropical design solution.

Saravanan a/l Lingeswaran

An interesting project related to sustainable living within the urban context. A thorough understanding of the site and surrounding nature strengthens the design concept. It is a good idea of conserving the existing forest and explores the usage of bamboo as part of the building material. There is evidence of a deep concern on the environmental issue. However, potential of the site context was taken for granted and there is very little indication on how it can be integrated with landscape design. The sustainable issue is doubtful where the bamboo material is concerned.

Initiating the Essential by Ismail Said

At a glance, the master plan of this project is impressive illustrating a complex design work. The spatial planning of the outdoor space for the UPM Student Center seems in order. However, the conceptual basis of the design was not displayed. In addition, the design aim or purpose was not included in the drawings. Therefore, it is difficult to judge whether the master plan serves the design purpose. There is a lack of site analysis on the landscape elements and social attributes of the site. Hence, it is difficult to judge whether the scheme is workable for the users of the site.

Charles Teo Kae Siang

The site analysis of this particular project was not clear and not critical to support the size of the site. However, there is some design process and synthesis plan showing the thinking process before it reached the master plan. However the process seems a bit too sudden to get into the overall master planning without clearly showing how and where each functional zone relates to each other and other site elements. A lot of emphasis on the planting itself is good. However, the overall master plan did not have a strong design in term of flow, harmony and focal elements. I have to compliment the student for some of the detail features in this garden. They are interesting such as the shadow walk and the unique hardscape design. The drawings display excellence sketching skills.

Students Center, UPM

Ismail Said

From the drawings, it seems that the theme of this project is connectivity that is linking the site - UPM Student Center - with the surrounding areas. The theme is appropriate to the campus community but the master plan did not show how the spaces and their greeneries are linked to its surrounding areas.

Charles Teo Kae Siang

There are some brief analysis and study on the site and the proposed design idea supporting the concept right from site characteristic to planting design. However, each zone should be more clearly illustrated to show the design intention. There is a mention on the planting or landscape planning will reduce 30% of the temperature. On the other hand, it will be much stronger if a study data is included to support the design decision. The flow of the design process presentation is somehow weak as it is started with Design Ideas at the left side of the panel. As most of the plan is view from left, it is recommended it start with the analysis and site study and then gradually flow into design ideas and plan. Overall, I lost track on where to start and where to end by looking at the presentation.

FRSB Outdoor Lab

Ismail Said

This is a project without a title. From one of the drawings, the objective seems to be an outdoor space for education and entertainment. Visual presentation of the master plan was interesting but lacked the information to suggest the function or purpose of the spaces. The theme was ecological corridor; a scheme that meets the journal requirement. It would be good to illustrate sections or details suggesting the ecological principles applied in the design. For example, a cross-section cutting the stream and landform would be helpful to illustrate aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems where insects and lizards inhabit the outdoor space. Hence, as a Master of Landscape Architecture project, this is an incomplete scheme.

Charles Teo Kae Siang

The project intended to create an outdoor lab within the vicinity of FRSB compound. From the first stage of the study and analysis, it clearly had shown the understanding of the site with SWOT on various aspects such as land use, circulation, views and vegetation. However the next process of development of idea and space planning weakened the whole process as it did not show clearly how each of the space is defined for its purpose based on the recommendation from the analysis. The flow from site study to final plan and artist impression come in as “sudden”. It did not address the step by step process. The ecological corridor as the selling point in this design was not strongly addressed on why and how it appears on the plan. It seems that the existing site for the ecological corridor was an access road and why there is a proposed riparian and ecological corridor with swale appearing in the middle of site does not connect to the site context. The project also did not address the detail component of other section such as the outdoor lab which is something needing to be highlighted. Rather, the focus was just on the ecological corridor. The artist impression is great and well done but the design process needs to be polished.