ARCHITECTURE AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Founded in 1959, Berkeley’s College of Environmental Design was an early reflection of the shift in architectural education during the second half of the 20th century from primarily aesthetic considerations to systematically identifying and studying the relationships between humans and their environment. By combining the decades-old academic programs of architecture, landscape design and urban planning at Berkeley, an entirely different educational focus was created.

An outgrowth of this new approach was the integration of social, behavioral, ecological, and climatic studies and research into the design curriculum. The result was a new all-encompassing discipline that was named Environmental Design. Wurster Hall itself reflects detailed responses to a number of the areas of concern, including the social distribution of spaces, the use of extensive passive sun-control elements, and more rigorous study of the proposed building as part of the total campus plan.

Wurster Hall was named after the husband and wife team of William Wurster and Catherine Bauer Wurster. William Wurster was head of the School of Architecture and then the first Dean of CED. Catherine Bauer Wurster was a nationally recognized housing expert and later Professor of City and Regional Planning at CED. Both played significant roles in the founding of the new college.

ARCHITECTURE IS A SOCIAL ART

The BERKELEY PRIZE supports the study and teaching of the social art of architecture. The online, two-stage Essay Competition (in English) is open to undergraduate architecture majors in accredited schools of architecture throughout the world. The Travel Fellowship Competition is open to the Essay Competition semifinalists.

PURSE

Essay Competition: 25,000 USD; 7,500 USD first prize; Multiple prizes
Travel Fellowship Competition: Stipend and airfare; Multiple prizes

2019 JURORS

Fadi Masoud, Canada: Landscape Architect and Planner; Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture and Urbanism at the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, University of Toronto, Canada. Masoud’s research and design work engages the landscape and its underlying systems as operational forces in shaping urbanism. His current work focuses on establishing relationships between these dynamic large-scale environmental systems, design, and the instrumentality of planning frameworks, policies, and codes. He currently serves as a member of the Resilient Toronto’s Urban Flooding Working Group. Among other honors, Masoud is a former Fulbright Fellow, is widely published and has lectured in North America and Europe.

Youssef Nassef, Egypt: Director of the Adaptation Programme, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn, Germany). A major focus of his work is the nexus of climate resilience with sustainable development. Building on three decades of work in international environmental policy, he has launched and implemented a number of ongoing initiatives at the United Nations supporting adaptation and resilience in response to climate change. These include the National Adaptation Plans for developing countries and National Adaptation Programmes of Action for Least Developed Countries; the Nairobi Work Programme, and the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. Nassef is a seconded diplomat from the Egyptian Foreign Service.

Avikal Somvanshi, India: Architect and Urbanologist; Programme Manager, Sustainable Cities Programme, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, India. His work focuses on greening policies and practices shaping the urban built environment was instrumental in persuading the Indian Government to enact India’s first ever rules to manage and recycle construction and demolition waste. He has co-authored two books Building Sense: Beyond the green facade of sustainable habitats; and Building Wise: Exploring sustainable architecture in an unequal and changing world (to be published in the fall, 2018). Somvanshi was a winner of the 2008 BERKELEY PRIZE Architectural Design Fellowship Competition and is a PRIZE Committee Member.

Susan Ubbelohde, United States: Professor in the Department of Architecture and Associate Dean of the College of Environmental Design at University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.; Principal and founding partner of Losos + Ubbelohde (Alameda, California). L+U is an architecture and consulting office of “unconventional practice” that brings research methods to the practice of high-performance integrated design. The firm has pioneered new methods of lighting and daylighting design and analysis; design and fabrication of light sculptures; energy conservation and thermal comfort analysis; natural ventilation analysis; and building monitoring and data visualization. The application of these advances have led to numerous design and sustainability awards.

SCHEDULE

Competition opens: September 15, 2018; Stage One entries due: November 1, 2018.
For more information go to www.berkeleyprize.org

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