INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE

MULTI - FACULTY

COURSE OUTLINE:

This course titled 'International Studies in Vernacular Architecture' was originally conceived as a Master's program by late Professor Paul Oliver in 1997 at Oxford Brookes University. It grew out of the work he completed as editor of the seminal 3 volume Encyclopedia of Vernacular Architecture of the World published by Cambridge University Press, published in 1997. Taking the view of growing concerns on ways to study and teach World's Vernacular traditions in Architecture education, this proposed course is an effort from the ISVA Alumni who are now in academia or architectural practice throughout the globe, wish to revitalize this field of teaching and learning. The content and structure of the original course is unique and we feel the course offers urgent and relevant approaches to the many challenges we face, from climate change to housing crises. By re-examining the subjects covered in the curriculum the next generation of students will be equipped with the vital knowledge and understanding of vernacular traditions of the world. The proposed course can be considered as elective subject by schools imparting architectural education, sociology, anthropology, and cultural geography.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR:

Prof. Ram Sateesh Pasupuleti, is an Indian architect also a member of Swedish Association of Architects. He is currently working as Assistant Professor Department of Architecture and Planning Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee. He is currently the Professor-in charge Institute Archives at IIT Roorkee. He will be taking responsibility for coordinating the proposed course on International Studies in Vernacular Architecture. The other instructors mentioned above represent different academic and practice sectors coming different parts of world. This then help to bring an international perspective on the vernacular Architecture studies.

Prof. Yenny Gunawan is the Head of Research and Design Development at Center for Adaptation and Resilience Environmental Design Studies (CAREDs) and founder of Nenun Ruang, an education platform for progressive architecture and craftsmanship design in Indonesia. She obtained her MA in International Studies in Vernacular Architecture, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK and a Bachelor of Architecture Engineering from Parahyangan Catholic University, Bandung, Indonesia. She has researched and published papers on vernacular architecture. She has been working with rural communities, from West Sumba, South Sulawesi, South Kalimantan, Central Java, West to North Sumatra through various projects; such as schools design, building community shelter, and research-based spatial planning for traditional communities. Her current project is Tectonic Culture in relation to Learning by Making and Emergency Evacuation Shelter Design. Apart from the local communities, she has worked experiences with trans-national professionals from Japan, UK, Peru, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam. She has also led workshops, research, art installations, exhibitions, design projects and symposiums.

Prof. Melissa Malouf Belz have completed BS Environmental Design, University of Massachusetts, Amherst 1995 MA International Studies in Vernacular Architecture/Architectural Regeneration and Development, Oxford Brookes University 2000 PhD Geography, Kansas State University, Manhattan 2012 Melissa Malouf Belz has a PhD in geography with interests in the cultural landscape, and how and why places change. Her research has focused on the enduring and declining traditions of architectural woodcarving and vernacular design in the Indian Himalaya. Melissa spent 10 years working in the field of architecture and international development with projects focused on appropriate and sustainable construction, and preservation. She worked in Mexico's border region for U.S. non-profits, in Mongolia for the United Nations Development Program, and for a US National Historic District. Melissa is now Associate Teaching Professor in Integrative and Global Studies, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in a program that guides students in STEAM fields through research projects geared towards building holistic thinking and global literacy, supported by a global network of community partnerships.

COURSE PLAN:

Week 1: Anthropology of Shelter Week 2: Materials and Resources Week 3: Cultural Geography Week 4: Natural Hazards