



Annual Report 2012/13

Purpose

The aim of the Foundation is: 'the advancement of education directed towards the promotion, furtherance and dissemination of knowledge of matters associated with the built environment'. We pursue these, where possible, 'with an emphasis on the multi-disciplinary nature of design in engineering and architecture'.

Chairman's Statement

The year 2012-13 has been very active in a number of areas. As well as activities that we have funded (listed at the end of this statement), we have been busy developing ideas with others. While a significant proportion of our giving is in response to speculative proposals, about 80% is targeted or self-initiated. Much preparatory work goes into the latter category and it can take more than a year before a proposal is sufficiently developed for consideration by the Trustees. Our current discussions are in the areas of digital cities; transferring the proven model of visiting professors in building physics to universities in East Asia; and exploring possibilities with the Open University and research councils.

Our financial position is strong, in spite of the continuing economic pressures, and we enter the next year with confidence in continuing the pattern of supporting both short and long term projects.

Last year we were considering various locations for another global debate. It has now been agreed to hold this at the University of Queensland and preparations are underway for the event in the autumn of 2014.

The Trustees are supported by Advisors representing professional bodies. Our Advisors are invaluable in helping to develop our thinking and supporting the work of the Foundation. This year we welcome Jim Croll who succeeds Peter Guthrie as the representative of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

We also welcome Jeremy Watson as a Trustee and thank Mike Shears and Fiona Cousin for their contributions and commitment as they stand down as Trustees.

Finally, on behalf of all the Trustees and Advisors, I offer thanks to Richard Haryott who stood down as Chairman after many years of hard work, commitment and guidance in ensuring an active and robust Foundation.

Terry Hill

Chairman of The Ove Arup Foundation

Activities during 2012/13

The Case for Centres of Excellence in Building Physics

Following on from the successful Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Professor in Building Engineering Physics scheme we were pleased to support The Case for Centres of Excellence in Sustainable Building Design, authored by Doug King. This was launched at a special event at the Royal Academy of Engineering in June 2012. The report puts forward the case for Centres of Excellence in integrated sustainable building design could result in over £1bn of savings by 2030 and cut carbon emissions by 3.5 million tonnes a year. The report has been well received and the onus is now on universities to develop models of integrated design-based teaching.

The Ove Arup Foundation / Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Teaching Fellows

Our two-year support for the Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Teaching Fellows Scheme concluded this year. Our support enabled the appointment of 15 Visiting Teaching Fellows at UK universities. This scheme focussed on enriching the teaching curriculum in all aspects of engineering design with particular reference to sustainable development, systems, innovation, built environment and building engineering physics.

http://www.raeng.org.uk/education/vtf/ove_arup/default.htm

Cities Programme at the London School of Economics

The Foundation's initial grant in 1998 enabled the founding of the Cities Programme. Since its launch, graduates of the programme have gone on to hold key positions in urban development, design and planning internationally.

Our support of the Cities Programme, which funded specialist teaching on environment, infrastructure and resources through dedicated courses on City-making and Urban Environment, concluded this year.

Also at the LSE, Jo da Silva delivered the third and final Ove Arup Foundation Cities public lecture on 4 June 2013 on the subject of building resilience to natural disasters in which she explored how engineers and built environment professionals need to shift from responding to natural disasters to building everyday resilience within homes, communities and cities.

University of Cape Town

Our grant in 2006 to the University of Cape Town initiated the Masters programme in 'Urban Infrastructure: Design and Management'; and launched the Centre for Cities in Africa. Student numbers on the Masters Programme in Urban Infrastructure Design and Management have increased from 45 students in 2006 to 120 students in 2012 and the fellows of the programme remain actively engaged and their numbers have increased.

This year Edgar Pieterse (Director of the African Centre for Cities) delivered public lectures in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban and London. The video of the London talk, based on the challenges that African cities face, is available at <http://www.ovearupfoundation.org/resources/video/>

Fire Engineering Research, University of Edinburgh

Our five-year programme of support for Dr Luke Bisby at the University of Edinburgh came to a conclusion although Luke remains very active at Edinburgh continuing with his work on the effect of fire on materials and structures. We offer our congratulations to Luke who has now been made a Professor. Our connection with Luke Bisby and his work will continue for the next three years, although in a very much reduced way, as we sponsor a prize for exceptional graduating students.

Social Aspects of Fire Safety, University of Edinburgh

Graham Spinardi has been appointed to study and make recommendations on the sociological nature of fire safety. Graham has commenced the task of initial data gathering, including interviews with fire researchers and practitioners, whilst building his research programme and designing a teaching programme whose reach would include engineers, architects, fire scientists, social scientists.

'Rethinking the Engineer', University of Cambridge

A grant was made to the Department of Engineering at the University of Cambridge in support of the Engineering Education for Sustainable Development Conference 2013. The Conference aimed to explore how to develop the new skills needed by engineers so they can be more effective in dealing with messy problems in an increasingly complex and constrained world. The conference acts as a forum for the dissemination of new advances in the evolution of sustainable development thinking in young engineers and associated professionals and will bring together students, academics, graduates and practitioners to rethink the professional engineer's role and responsibilities in modern society.

<http://www-eesd13.eng.cam.ac.uk>

Anglo Danish Society Scholarship

The recipient of this year's award is Lasse Liebst who is a PhD scholar at the Bartlett, UCL and whose research is on how sociology can be used to better understand the effect of space in the urban environment.

Town Planning from a Human Evolutionary Perspective, UCL Institute of Archaeology

The Institute of Archaeology is conducting a research project on improving urban wellbeing, based on the pioneering concept of the "*Evolutionary Determinants of Health*". Its focus is on fundamental issues, why we are as we are, why we do what we do. It explores the premise that our bodies and brains still retain many of the attributes and drives of our ancestors.

We are pleased to provide a grant to support the compilation of a Case Study on Town Planning from a Human Evolutionary Perspective, looking at the highly inter-related issues of modern domestic building space and use, public buildings, green space, urban space, pedestrianisation, provision of sports facilities, public/private transportation policies and infrastructure.

MADE (Midlands Architecture and Designed Environment)

A grant was awarded to MADE for their City Builders project, a multi- disciplinary built environment programme that is centred on local projects. It takes in students from a wide range of backgrounds and with the support from MADE and other professionals aims to develop the basic skills and competencies required for a career in the built environment.

<http://www.ovearupfoundation.org/made-city-builder-academy-secures-foundation-support/>

Architecture Centre, Bristol

A grant was awarded to the Architecture Centre in support of its Ambitious City Young Ambassadors. Building on the success of the Architecture Centre's Young Design Champions programme (involving young people in the design of school buildings and parks), Ambitious City aims to engage young Bristolians in exploring their ambitions and vision for the city of Bristol and feeding them into the development process.

<http://www.ovearupfoundation.org/bristol-ambitious-city-young-ambassadors-gain-support/>