

# School Research Seminar Symposium

Wednesday 28 August, 2019 (15:00 – 18:30 hrs)

Dear all,

We are pleased to invite you to the School Seminar Symposium on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2019. The idea of this seminar is to join planning and design disciplines aimed to understand the built environment from scientific and creative practices, industry and academia, including teaching and research in Architecture and Urbanism.

In this opportunity our seminar combines research advances in Architecture Technology, Sustainability, Urban Design, Urban Planning and Geography inter alia.

As traditional, the international stand of our seminar is still in place.

This time presentations address disciplinary issues about Samoan communities, urban planning in Australia (Sydney), New Zealand, Europe (Germany, Italy) and the USA. The latter will be delivered as another ‘virtual lecture’ in hands of Dr© Lesley Slavitt from the Bartlett School of Planning, UCL. We will also have the visit (real, not virtual) of Dr Michele Campagna from the Università di Cagliari, who will present his research advances on Geodesign, Metaplanning, and social media geographic information analysis.

Please, see the information below about presentations, venue and participants.

15:00 – 18:30 hrs.

**Wednesday 28, August 2019**

School of Architecture and Planning. Room 421- 619, level 6

Convenor: Dr Cristian Silva (ca.silva@auckland.ac.nz)

**All students, researchers and staff welcome**

## Timeline and Presenters

	PRESENTERS	TIMELINE			PRESENTERS	TIMELINE	
0	Cristian Silva (Introduction)	15:00	15:05				
1	BLOCK 1 Lesley Slavitt (overseas) Julia Gatley Ferdinant Oswald Karamia Muller	15:05	15:25	5	BLOCK 2 Miranda Chang Jing Ma Lee Beattie Michele Campagna	16:30	16:50
2		15:25	15:45	6		16:50	17:10
3		15:45	16:05	7		17:10	17:30
4		16:05	16:25	8		17:30	17:50
	TEA BREAK	16:25	16:30		TEA BREAK	17:50	18:00

## **From shadow planning to civic capstone: The evolution of city planning and the legacy of George B. Ford.**

**Lesley Slavitt (virtual talk)**  
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**Abstract:** This work assesses the evolution and formative influences on the development of city planning in the early decades of the twentieth century and seeks to inform twenty-first century opportunities. The research uses the career and pioneering work of American practitioner George B. Ford as a lens through which to explore the professionalization of planning from 1909 to 1931. In particular, it investigates the role of the Great War in the field's development across two continents as well as transitions into the public domain and the role of civic service and non-governmental organizations in support of its formation. The narrative also addresses the evolution of planning within the context of unregulated and chaotic urban change more broadly, including the devastation of natural disaster. Ford was distinctive for his involvement in some of the field's most relevant early milestones, including his transnational engagement in France and work on the post-war plan for Reims, which was one of the largest and most historic cities devastated as a result of the war and the first such plan approved under French law. In addition, Ford was involved in the pre-war era of plan design in America, New York's 1916 Zoning Resolution, the pioneering official adoption of a comprehensive plan at Cincinnati (1925), and the Regional Plan of New York and Its Environs.

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## **Back to the South: Cyril Knight and the Modernisation of the Auckland School of Architecture**

**Dr Julia Gatley**  
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**Abstract:** Like many schools of architecture, that at Auckland University College (now the University of Auckland) modernised in the 1950s and early 1960s, dispensing with the last of its Beaux-Arts practices and giving increased attention to town planning, building science and research. It was often newly appointed academic leaders who realised such modernising initiatives, but at the Auckland School of Architecture, modernisation was led by a long-serving Chair and Dean, and indeed someone who was not known as a modernist. Cyril Roy Knight (1893-1972) was a Sydneysider and a graduate of the University of Liverpool. He served as New Zealand's first Chair and Dean of Architecture from 1925 until his retirement in 1958. This paper focuses on Knight's ideas about modernism and the modernisation of the Auckland School. It shows that while Knight was not a committed modernist, he was interested in international modernism. Underscoring his initiatives to modernise the School, however, was his concern that it was vulnerable to becoming out of date because New Zealand was geographically isolated and had only one architecture school. In an effort to keep the Auckland School up to date, Knight worked hard to understand international developments in architectural education and took his lead from the overseas trends. His approach can be described as considered gradualism. Post-war growth meant he was able to appoint multiple new staff in the late 1940s and early 1950s. This had unexpected effects for the School, as new staff gravitated around those teaching and practising regional modernism.

# Worldwide first grip fixing façade - recyclable and reusable façade system due to ecological load and impact

**Dr Ferdinand Oswald**

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**Abstract:** The status of Exterior Insulation Finishing Systems (EIFS) is, that there is no sustainability of the entire life-cycle (including profitable separation, disposal and recycling) and no positive recycling behaviour of building components at the end of the period of use (recovery of resources). The presentation will describe the project *Facade4zeroWaste* which includes the development, architectural design relevance, grants of patents, results of pre-certification testing's and the product publication in the time frame from 2009 till 2019. Aim of the research project *Facade4zeroWaste* was the idea of a recyclable facade insulation system that can easily be dismantled after its lifetime and reused thanks to an innovative grip fixing system - Grip fixing instead of adhesive. The facade system *Facade4zeroWaste* won the award of the EQAR – European Recycling Prize 2015. In January 2017 the façade system was presented from Sto SE & Co. KGaA Germany as the product StoSystain R on the building fair BAU 2017 in Munich. There the façade system was getting the award: Innovation Award for Architecture and Building. The first 6 building projects with the StoSystain R system are realized already in year 2018 and in the near future more objects with StoSystain R are planned.

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## The contemporary space making practices of Oceanic Diaspora online

**Dr Karamia Muller**

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**Abstract:** This presentation discusses the production and exchange of *siapo* online which sought to better understand the contemporary space making practices of Oceanic Diaspora across social media platforms. Through analysing the production and exchange of *siapo* online my research wove three key research areas: the gendered contribution to contemporary space making amongst Oceanic Diaspora; the relationship between contemporary space making and notions of being authentically “Sāmoaness”; and Oceanic Diaspora as online space makers. At the intersections of these topics, it was found that women’s contributions to space making have routinely been erased across the disciplines of Oceanic architecture, Oceanic architectural history, Oceanic architectural theory, Oceanic anthropology, Oceanic feminism and digital culture. This historical bias found in the exclusion of women’s textiles from architectural discourse, Indigenous feminist thinking from Western frameworks of research, and women’s presence as a class of producers online. Through using feminist analysis, online *siapo* was found to be a relational, embodied form of ancestral *siapo*, which contemporary producers deploy in online self-making, and thus online space making. Since it was found that there are no current theoretical frameworks to address these knowledge gaps, I argue that new terms, definitions and vocabularies are needed to better describe these emergent spatialities.

# **Communities for All Generations in High-Density Urban Environments: The Case for Mayoral Drive ‘Hobson-Ridgeline’ Precinct, Auckland**

**Miranda Chang**

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**Abstract:** While growing old is a natural biological process, the world is undergoing unprecedented growth in both ageing population and urbanisation. This demographic shift with its wide consequential impacts on social, economic and the physical environment, urges re-examination of current urban planning and policies that leaves communities ill-equipped for this driving social force in society. For sustainable communities, urban design must focus on integrating the young and old in comprehensive developments that promote and support intergenerational neighbourhoods. Urban design factors in shaping the spatial characteristics to age-friendly communities are identified and examined. The emphasis is on understanding the interrelationships between connectivity, communal space and diversity, and their reciprocal influence with density in both its quantitative ‘hard’ and qualitative ‘soft’ dimensions. This paper will contextualise these pertinent design factors and high-density pre-conditions influencing formation a lifelong community within the ‘Hobson-Ridgeline’ precinct on Mayoral Drive.

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## **Valuing nature: A CBA of an intervention to increase the benefits derived from the Ponderosa Park, Sheffield**

**Dr Jing Ma**

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**Abstract:** Urban parks are the places for nature experience and recreation within the cities. They provide a varied set of Urban Ecosystem Services which can deliver positive effects on physical and mental health and human well-being. Enhancing the direct people interaction to nature and increasing number of people visiting parks should be fundamental targets for local authorities wishing to achieve more sustainable and healthy life style for their citizens. Even if its key relevance, urban nature experience is however complex and multifaceted due to several conditions which can support or discourage people on visiting and interacting with urban parks. This research, based on the Improving Wellbeing through Urban Nature project, proposes a comprehensive Cost Benefits Analysis (CBA) for evaluating in monetary terms public and private costs and benefits resulting by the construction of a new Café and Toilet within an urban park. Viability and impacts of this private investment aimed at increasing the number of visitors and showing the public benefits rising from the natural capital.

# What role do urban design guidelines play in enhancing the quality of the built environment: Lessons from Auckland and Sydney

**Dr Lee Beattie**

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**Abstract:** The use of urban design guidance and independent expert review panels through the statutory urban planning process is a tool commonly used by many cities worldwide to enhance the quality of their built environment, with the expectation that the advice given through this process leads to modifications through the development process that improve the quality of their city's-built environment. This approach is usually mandated by strategic urban planning policy goals that seek sustainable urban growth, focused on achieving intensified urban development around transit options, existing or proposed town centres taking advantage of existing infrastructure provision, coupled with an argument that higher density leads to enhanced liveability.

We explore this issue and examine the role and influence that the urban design policy guidance documents and expert review panels have had on the urban design outcomes achieved in two privately lead master planned case studies, one in Auckland (Hobsonville), New Zealand and the other in Sydney (Thornton), Australia. Hobsonville in Auckland is 15 kilometers from the Auckland's CBD is currently New Zealand's largest brownfields regeneration project (on a disused military base) which sought to create a new, sustainable community of 12,500 residents at the city's edge. It is currently home to 4,500 resident which will rise to 12,500 on completion in 2024. The second is Thornton in Sydney's outer western suburbson the city's periphery, 50 kilometres from Sydney's CBD. It is on a brownfield site (on a disused military base) seeking to provide 1,100 new dwellings (population between 2,500 to 3,000) with 700 new employment opportunities. Construction commenced in 2012 and is due for completion in 2020 and currently has approximately 1,000 dwellings completed (population 2000).

This paper describes the findings from a critical evaluation of the physical outcomes achieved through these privately led development process use in both cases and considers the influence and impact the statutory urban design guidance had in enhancing the quality of these built environment. It provides interesting insights on the interaction between statutory urban design policy guidance, the development community and results achieved on the ground. Finally, it raises issue of urban design government and the role this plays in the on-going maintenance required to ensure these policy goals are maintained over time.

# Geodesign: retrospective and prospective.

**Dr Michele Campagna**

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**Abstract:** Geodesign is an emerging approach to spatial planning and design which enables to inform the design of future territorial changes by the geographic context. Not only Geodesign may be considered an operational way to contribute to the proactive protection of the natural and anthropic environments, but it also provides methods for community involvement and collaborative decision-making, using state of the art enabling digital technology. While facing a fast diffusion and growth in popularity, Geodesign research and practice can be considered still at its early stages, with a broad potential ahead to be still explored. Within this context, this seminar presents recent advances in Geodesign from a global perspective, focusing then on the experiences of the author in Geodesign research, education, and practice.

A specific focus is given on the use of Information and Communication Technology in spatial planning and design, offering a brief overview of research advances in the last decades. Then, the geodesign approach is presented, highlighting the methodology fundamentals and presenting practical examples and case studies of its application in planning research, education and practice. Several dimensions of the design and decision-making process are addressed including the role of actors, the use of geographic digital data and technology, and the issue of planning and design scale.