

EDITORIAL PREFACE

Editors

Four articles are published in this issue of ALAM CIPTA and since 2015 saw the changes to Alam Cipta Editors lineup, it is decided to provide readers an opportunity to look into the expertise of these editors by allowing them to be the main or co-authors. Nevertheless, the articles were still underwent a stringent review process by the qualified reviewers. The articles published raise the issues ranging from city planning, campus redevelopment, urban parks and building performance. They are very important spaces that need to be looked at in architecture, planning and design as these spaces represent environment that we are dealing with every day.

The article by Zalina Shari and Veronica Soebarto examines the adaptation of various building performance assessment system by Malaysia. By examining various building assessment system and critically analyzed the implementation from various parameters, the authors conclude that there is a need to critically understand local factors before a particular assessment system can be fully adapted. The article indirectly argues that the local environment and culture is the most important factors that need to be considered in planning and design as well as the assessment system. Muhammad Yazah, Ezaz and Mohd Yazid discuss the problems faced by international students in adapting with campus living in Malaysia. They argued that the university campus needs to evoke strong sense of attachment among its international student if the university wants to attract more international student enrollments. The finding of the study is interesting and posed a new question regarding campus design and

planning in Malaysia. How to make Malaysian universities' campus more vibrant and attractive in tandem with internationalization of Malaysian higher education?

Mazen et al presented the very interesting paper regarding possible post-conflict redevelopment for the city of Kirkuk in Iraq. The conflict present a new dilemma in Iraq, in which social and security issues need to be taken into consideration. By using Geographical Information System (GIS), social distribution and security factors have been acknowledge as key factors to determine urban redevelopment strategies by understanding which areas shall be a priority for redevelopment. Suhardi Maulan article is based on the issue of urban park lack of visitation and the author examines people preferences for park activities. He found out that for Seremban Urban Park, people preferences are centered on family and passive activities. Suhardi paper provides glimpse on what actually Malaysians preferences for park spaces and programs and how actually they may differ from other countries.

ALAM CIPTA accepts articles that concern with architecture and design related to the process, methods, techniques, practices and theories. On behalf of the editors, I would like to thanks all the authors and reviewers who had work very hard. Your contribution is very valuable as it help the advancement and dissemination of knowledge to "cipta" [create] a better world. We encourage your feedbacks at alamciptaeditor@upm.edu.my and thank you for your continuous support of ALAM CIPTA.