

# Institutional Spatial Interaction

Abd Aziz Othman

As man looks for better quality of life, issues relating to the outdoor spaces have always been included in his discussions. Landscape design has become synonym with the issue because it is fundamental in the field to maximise the potential of outdoor spaces. In recognising this, a group of our final year students proposed several landscape design works for institutional projects. We believe that landscape architects could be key players in ensuring the quality of outdoor environment.

Among the works are the Cultural and Performing Arts Centre, Community College and Elderly Home. All are challenging projects to experiment. The task is to undertake a comprehensive study, individually, in order to demonstrate the student's understanding about the design process. One of the key aspects that they should address is how to realise the full potential of institutional landscapes and create an attractive yet functional outdoor environment to compliment the existing or proposed buildings.

Muhamad Huzaimi Nor Rashid worked on the Cultural Art and Performing Centre in Kuala Lumpur. He presents an interesting approach by looking specifically at the current and emerging outdoor spaces. His cultural inspiration provides a positive and creative influence on contemporary design, and moreover, enhances local distinctiveness of the surrounding environment.

Rohaniah Mohd Nor worked towards enriching the landscape and integrating a community in symbiosis. She tried to provide a comprehensive model of community college in order to maximise its educational use. The landscape provides a variety of functional, attractive and integrated indoor and outdoor spaces for learning environment.

Azryt Aznan is committed to designing an elderly home. This project illustrates sensitivity to the community. He had identified a different concept and employed a technique in some common design while looking at present trends and directions. The quality of spaces in his project is a product of the physical element itself and the community interacting with it.

These three works show that landscape architecture is about the way people live. They provide all the ingredients, from the scene we look at, the space we experience, and to the art we aspire to.