

active construction #10

News from the Joint Master of Architecture, Spring 2013

Retrospect elop*5 HS12 «Learning Environments – Campus Cologne»

* previously elope



Perspective high-rise building, Team Da Vinci

elop is a multidisciplinary and transcultural teaching and learning platform whose topics are always related to the built environment and explore real issues holistically. The transdisciplinary problem-solving process aims to produce innovative concepts and enables students to tackle complex issues beyond the boundaries of their own subject.

The fifth project, entitled «Learning Environments – Campus Cologne» was organised for the first time in cooperation with an elop alliance partner, the University of Applied Sciences in Cologne.

A total of 34 students from 16 nations from the disciplines of architecture, civil engineering, construction management, building technology, landscape architecture as well as social sciences – all enrolled at elop alliance partner universities (Bauhaus University Weimar, FH Cologne, Polytech'Marseille, Politecnico di Milano, HEPIA Geneva and Stanford University) – took part in this project. Five students from the Joint Master of Architecture program participated in the project. Furthermore, there were also students from the social work division from the Bern University of Applied Sciences (BUAS) involved.

Five multidisciplinary teams devised sustainable concepts and forward-looking solutions for the new construction of the campus Deutz of the FH Cologne and developed visions for the learning environment of tomorrow.

The physical kick-off took place in October in Cologne and the focus was on team building, process planning, direct exchange with the stakeholders as well as on generating a common vision.

Back in their home universities, the teams spent the entire semester preparing recommendations and concrete project proposals, and thus had the opportunity of working through transdisciplinary design and planning processes in a virtual collaboration.

All participants met again in January 2013 for the final presentation in Cologne. The students' proposals contribute to the ongoing debate in Cologne and also aim to emphasise the question of the learning environment of the future from a transdisciplinary perspective, which has implications in relation to the planning of the BUAS campus in Biel/Bienne. On the basis of in-depth analysis of the existing campus in Deutz, dating from the seventies, the teams developed strategies for retaining resp. renewing the facilities. The team «Da Vinci», for example, explored the question of use of the existing buildings, in particular the transformation of the high-rise building. Learning boxes are inserted into the volume by way of a structuring element and, together with vertical voids, create new connecting inner rooms and innovative learning environments. A sustainable use concept with measures for enhancing the communication of knowledge and raising awareness seeks to optimise energy consumption in everyday campus life.

The team «Marie Curie» uses a mega-structure as a shaping element that combines the architectonic and landscape elements as well as an energy concept. It serves as a canopy for the entire campus site, which connects new and old buildings with

one another. At the heart of the campus, a large covered area is created which, thanks to a flexible concept, offers a mixed transdisciplinary use for all faculties and, with its programmatic diversity, is also made accessible to a wider public.



Masterplan, Team Marie Curie

«elop is so much more than the normal design studio. Being so different it also offers new challenges and opportunities. elop is about discovering new collaborative working processes, engaging in fundamentally integrated ideas towards rich solutions to complex, large scale and pressing current concerns. Working within a disparate group, you will learn to communicate effectively, finding common ground across many different cultural backgrounds and disciplinary perspectives. As well as furthering and developing your own work, elop is a great platform to initiate and participate in dialogues, in the process discover your own unique group dynamic and your own role within such an environment. While challenging, problematic and frustrating at times, the result is definitely worth the effort.»

Sebastian Pertl, JMA Student

Led and coordinated by: Kathrin Merz | Key Portilla-Kawamura

Organised by: René Cousin of Cologne University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Coached by: Corina Ebeling

Theory Seminar Spring 2013 «Concepts of Space»



New Structures, Sol Lewitt (1995)

The theory seminar S1 will deal with different abstract concepts of space and their interrelation with architectural practice. Our cityscape is shaped today by large scale influences as contextual parameters. They establish a renewed contextualism which includes technological innovations with their consequences on communicative action in architectural design, production and space. By introducing selected concepts of space, we will analyse strategies to include abstract spatial approaches into pragmatic contextual analyses and design concepts. The attempt to generate a wide-range spatial concept for architecture is bringing together concepts and methods from cultural theory, media theory, arts, social space, planning and more. Only

by working in the field, we can close the gap between theory and practice and expand our repertory beyond the architectural or urbanistic spatial concept of plan. If we go deep into spatial analysis, this will establish a critical practice of architecture and a new innovative view onto context, program and space.

The students will analyse the suburban non-place-urban-field of Burgdorf. Here, concepts of traditional contextual (city-center based) analysis no longer succeed. We have to establish new transdisciplinary criteria for the evaluation of space. Mapping procedures play a central role. To detect, map and visualise new spatial criteria, the students will let selected theoretical approaches interact with large scale sections through the non-place-urban field of Burgdorf.

Led by: Joachim Huber

Organised by: Markus Zimmermann

Project studio Spring 2013 «Learning from Libreville, Low-budget housing in wood»



objectif 5000 logements www.ogouueinfos.com

This studio is designed for students of the Joint Master of architecture and of the Bachelor- and Master of Science in wood technology. The ambition is to create a trans-disciplinary dynamic process between design and construction. The studio is organised in teams comprising a timber engineer and several architects, collaborating throughout the entire duration of the semester, from the concept all the way through to planning and construction.

The studio will study the question of development and sustainability in Africa mainly via the use of local materials and products.

In relation to the populations increasing migration from the country to the city, which causes a challenging demand for work and on housing, the research will be addressing, as well as the topic of urban planning, the following aspects: cultural, social, economical, climatic, geographical and historical.

The studio will be a collaborative work with Häring, a wood-construction firm based in Basel, and its Ecowood subsidiary in Libreville (Gabon) and will offer the possibility to exchange knowledge, ideas and experience of the local conditions.

Under specific climatic, social, environmental, economical, cultural and regional influences, residential modules will be developed either in the form of a low-cost residential development or a single-family house. The projects will be thought through to the execution phase, including the mounting instructions. The intention is for students to attend an interdisciplinary exchange program in Cantercel (France) in order to understand more about wood construction. This exchange will be complemented by lectures from professors of both disciplines and a selection of the firms collaborators, who will also be part of the studio work. The results will be analysed in order to examine their potential for further development in a continuing partnership.

Led by: Alain Fidanza

Organised by: Corina Ebeling

joint master of architecture

Bern University of Applied Sciences
Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering

Retrospect Project studio Fall 2012 «Learning from Crans-Montana, living the Alpine Resort»

The studio «Learning from Crans-Montana» was first and foremost devoted to the disappearance of hotels in alpine tourist resorts.

During a seminar on-site at the beginning of the semester, the students were confronted with the views of the various local stakeholders and keenly made aware of the issue regarding the future of the tourist resort. They have come to know the territory, its geographic and topographic peculiarities, its history and social structures. These insights formed the basis for their individual program, which was then put into practice in the area of the western entrance of Crans-Montana, near the golf course and the Etang-Long.

With the knowledge they gained, they developed a fine instinct for the ever-increasing chasm between tourists and local inhabitants. With the help of architectural plans, they started to draw up meeting zones designed to involve the different participants and set the scene for them.

The knowledge gained through 18 student projects allows the place to be better understood, with its problems, its constructed as well as non-built context, on an area that used to be grazing land and that has been converted to an urban space.



Model Stasia Kremer

Led by: Alain Fidanza

Organised by: Markus Zimmermann

Lectures in the Kornhausforum - Bern

8.3.2013 Pecha Kucha Night, 8.20pm

12.3.2013 information evening JMA 6.30pm

13.3.2013 Lecture Architekturforum Bern

«Skopje – Utopia and Dystopia»(engl.), Ognjen Marina, Engineer Architect, Skopje, 7pm

19.3.2013 Lecture PD Dr. Schnell «70er-Jahre: Architektur in der Krise?» 7pmr

21.3.2013 Grafton Architects (engl.), Dublin, 7pm

22.3.2013 Museumsnacht, 6pm - 2am

4.4.2013 PERIPHERIQUES Architectes (french), Paris, 7pm

25.4.2013 Kerstin Höger, Professor for Architecture and Urban Design, Zürich/Trondheim, 7pm

23.5.2013 POOL Architekten, Zürich, 7pm

Events of the JMA

Time and place check www.ahb.bfh.ch or

www.jointmaster.ch > news

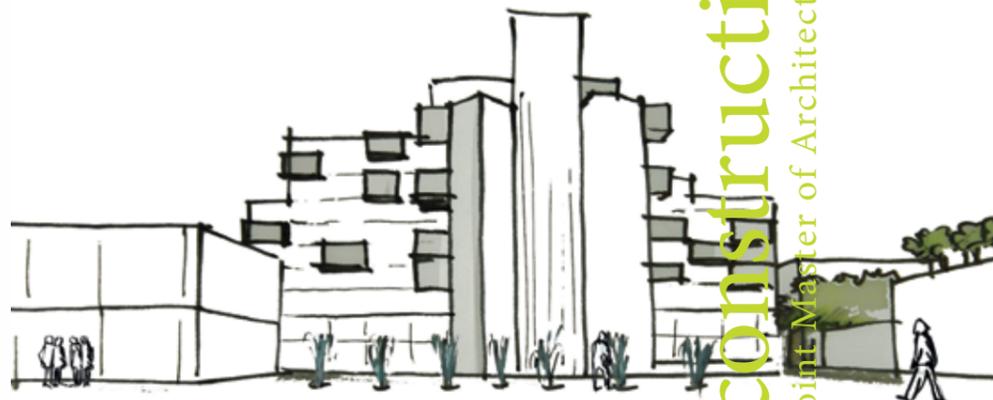
5.–22.2013 Annual Exhibition, Kornhaus Bern

joint master of architecture

Bern University of Applied Sciences
Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering



Beautiful trees as soon as I get out of the tram station!



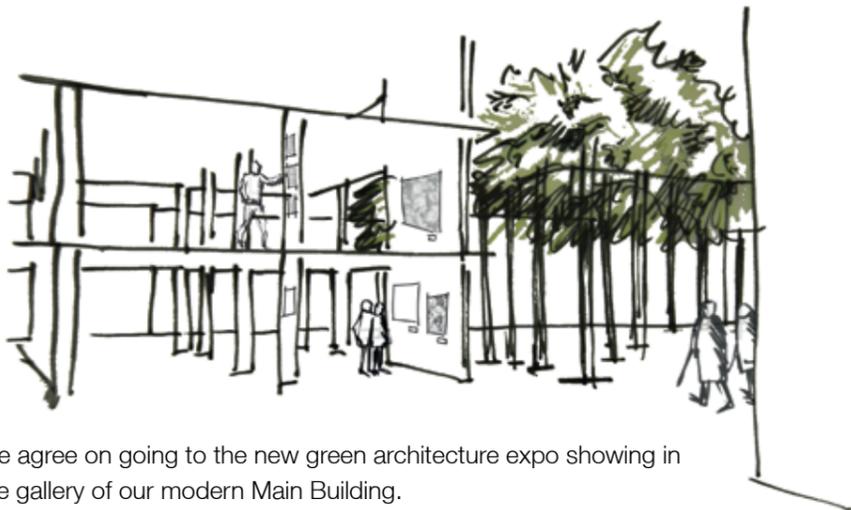
The museum is already open, I wonder if there is something new?



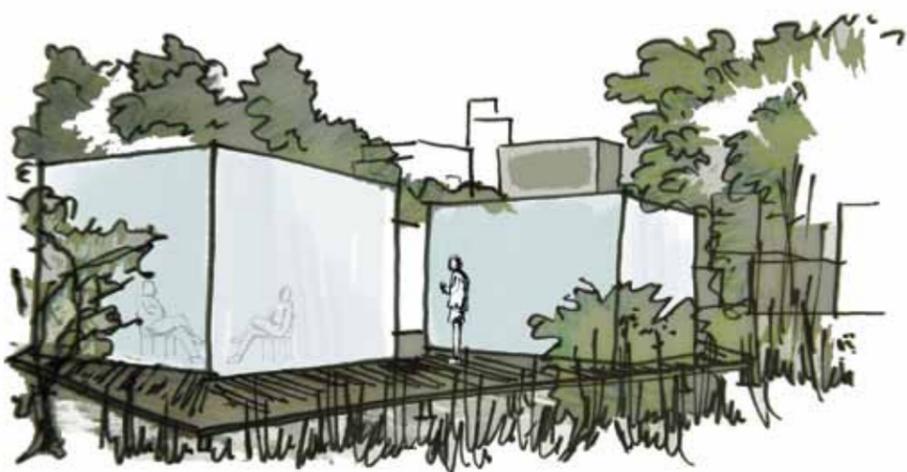
Met my best friend at the entrance, she is by the fountain at the entrance refreshing in this really hot summer day!



My friend and I prepare for a long day with sweet apples for me and a cup of coffee for her in the Central Square Cafe.



We agree on going to the new green architecture expo showing in the gallery of our modern Main Building.



I need to focus on my new project; I'll book a Forest Study Unit for tomorrow morning!

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News from the Joint Master of Architecture, Spring 2013

What are the benefits of the Joint Master ?

- > The competencies to lead an architectural project from the problem analysis to the constructional implementation.
- > The working skills for entering competitions; from the initial analysis up to the submission of a competitive project.
- > The constructive logics to implement architectural projects into the specific constructional and economical reality.
- > The architectural and social competencies needed to lead a team in the planning industry or your own office.
- > An internationally accepted university degree allowing you to work abroad and take part in competitions.

International exchange

Students of the Joint Master have the possibility to study one or two semesters abroad at one of the following partner universities: in Aalborg, Ahmedabad, Amsterdam, Bordeaux, Brussels, Dresden, Lisbon, Monterrey, Paris, Seville, Shanghai, or Tokyo.

Collaboration with Fribourg and Geneva

The Joint Master of Architecture is offered by the Bern University of Applied Sciences Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering (BFH- AHB) in collaboration with the College of Engineering and Archi-

itecture of Fribourg and the Haute école du paysage, d'ingénierie et d'architecture de Genève. One theory week per semester takes place in Fribourg and Geneva. Lessons are held in English.



The Joint Master studies can be completed in 4 to 8 semesters on either a part-time or full-time basis. The start of the autumn semester is during calendar week 38; closing date for applications is May 31. The start of the spring semester is during calendar week 8; closing date for applications is October 31.

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Joint Master Team 2013

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