



### From President ISOLA

Dear Members

Greeting's from the Executive Council !!

We are pleased to bring out this issue of the newsletter with Dr. Abhijit Natu as editor.

On behalf of the Executive council, I wish to thank the LOC Gujarat Chairperson, Prof. Deepa Maheshwari and her team for having successfully hosted the 2011 ISOLA conference in September at Ahmedabad. This January, Dr. Abhijit Natu on behalf of the education board, successfully initiated and convened a workshop on 'Teaching of Landscape Architecture at UG level in Architecture' at Mumbai with venue support from Rachana Sansad's Academy of Architecture. For the first time in ISOLA's history a competition hosted by the government, The National Police Memorial competition hosted in 2011 specified an ISOLA membership requirement in its eligibility criteria.

The resource committee has invited proposals for research works in the landscape field that will benefit the members and the profession. We are hoping interested members would come forward. ISOLA has accepted a request from IGBC to partner and help drive their Green Landscape Program. The ISOLA awards program this year is on and I do hope many of you have sent in your forms. Membership certificates have also been redesigned and will be soon sent to you .

The executive council is working on finalizing this year's conference which is tentatively scheduled in the end of August 2012. Do expect an announcement regarding this very soon. We also wish to inform you that ISOLA HQ has moved to a new address at : *312, 3rd Floor, Chitra Rath Complex, Near President Hotel, Off. C. G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad.*

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Rohit Marol



### From Editor's Pen

Seasons Greetings !!

It gives pleasure to present this news letter in the **World Landscape Architecture Month**.

Past year was indeed a year of achievements for our members and eventful for the society. This Newsletter presents an overview of the past events and the achievements of our members.

In the article section we are presenting the "Notes on Teaching of Landscape Architecture to Undergraduate Architects" by Prof. M. Shaheer which was part of his speech at the ISOLA Landscape Education Workshop held at Mumbai.

### ISOLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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**Abhijit Natu.**

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### ISOLA Events

#### **ISOLA 7th National Conference : Cultural Landscapes**

The 7th National Conference of the ISOLA was hosted at Ahmedabad on September 10 and 11 2011 on the theme "Cultural Landscapes". The interdisciplinary theme of the conference attracted speakers and experts from various disciplines along with landscape architecture. Many eminent national as well as international experts presented their papers in the conferences. These included Padmashree Prof. B V Doshi, Desiree Martinez, President IFLA, Dr. Sung Kyum Kim, Alan Titchener, Dr. Rana PB Singh, Prof. P.B. Bhagwat, Prof. Nayanjyoti Lahiri, Prof. Vasavada, Prof. Dhavalikar.

#### **ISOLA Education Workshop : Teaching of Landscape Architecture at UG level in Architecture.**

As part of its educational activities, the society conducted a workshop for teachers as well as professionals, focusing upon teaching of Landscape architecture at UG level in Architecture. The workshop was conducted at Rachana Sansad's Academy of Architecture, Mumbai on November 19, 2011. The workshop was supported by the Rachana Sansad. The objective of the workshop was to clearly define the scope of landscape design at UG level in Architecture. More than twenty five teachers from various schools of architecture in country participated in the workshop. Prof. M. Shaheer , Prof. Dr. Shishir R. Raval, Prof. Dr. Sridevi Rao and Prof. Samir Mathur were the experts who contributed their views in the workshop. The workshop was planned to be interactive and participating teachers presented their papers to share their experiences of teaching of LA at UG level in Architecture. Dr. Abhijit Natu convened the workshop.

#### **ISOLA-NASA Landscape Design Trophy.**

In continuation of past two years, even this year ISOLA has supported and sponsored the landscape design competition held at the Annual NASA convention at Ahmedabad from 27 to 29 January, 2012. The theme for this year's competition was "Celebrating the Past".

### OBITUARY



**Landscape architect Prof. Jaswant Rai**, former Head of the Landscape Department at School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi passed away on 19th February 2012 at his Gurgaon residence. He had a long and distinguished architecture & landscape practice. He was associated with many Architecture colleges as a visiting faculty for many years.



### Kudos to our Members

#### The National Police Memorial (NPM) Competition :

Earlier this year, the Government of India, through the Ministry of Home Affairs, held the National Architectural Design Competition for the National Police Memorial to be built on a six acre site at New Delhi. The competition was open to all architects recognized by the Council of Architecture and association of a landscape architect with the design team was mandatory. The team of Siddhartha Talwar (Architect) and Nikhil Dhar (landscape Architect) was awarded the first prize. (Fig 1 below).



Fig. 1

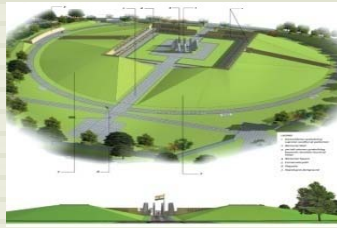


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

The second prize was won by Mr. Saket Jain (Architect), Sachin Jain and Ritu Jain (both Landscape Architects) (fig.2 above) The third prize was won by Anita Tikoo Matange (landscape Architect), Vijay Matange and Sroboshi Das (both Architects) (Fig. 3 above) ISOLA congratulates them all.

*Photo courtesy : Ms. Geeta Wahi Dua.*

#### 2013 World Landscape Art Exposition, Jinzhou, China : Garden Design Competition

The main theme of this expo is 'The World is a Garden'. The theme of the garden design competition was to reflect the idea that 'landscape architecture' and 'garden art' are amongst the most pleasing aspects of human existence, on an almost spiritual level, for all peoples, everywhere. The competition was open to landscape architects from all IFLA Member Associations.

A nine member jury panel selected 20 landscape architects based upon the preliminary submissions. The designs of these 20 landscape architects will be constructed before 2013 and these designers were invited to Jinzhou City for site visit. Ravi and Varsha Gavandi, Landscape Architects, Pune were shortlisted among these 20 designers. We congratulate them.



### **Notes on the Teaching of Landscape Architecture to Undergraduate Architects** **Prof. M. Shaheer**

#### **Intent**

Teaching landscape as part of undergraduate architecture is an opportunity to open an alternative window to the aspiring architect, to look at space and scale in another, very different and broader way. It might introduce the architecture student to how a landscape architect thinks, and from what theoretical background that particular approach emerges. The student could be encouraged to assess the value and usefulness of this to his own concerns. 'Landscape literacy' is a good description of what an undergraduate landscape course might hope to achieve. What that means: some familiarity with the *language* of landscape, and its vocabulary.



Beginning to appreciate language helps analytical thinking; it clarifies the concepts of structure, sequence, narrative, connection, allusion, and their significance to how we think about what we see and make. In talking of literacy we are also speaking of grammar and construction, in what we say, what we write, and what we draw. To learn that each subject has its own language is to understand also that without being at ease in that language very little progress can be made in acquiring the creative and technical skills that would enable proficient practice of that discipline. And that is true of architecture as well. Its important to know that this language whilst having its own peculiarities and special identity is inseparably connected to the vocabulary of other creative arts and crafts.

#### **Content**

It's a short course and the undergraduate has many other demands on his time. It's probably reasonable to assume that she/he will be interested in ideas which his architecture education to date prepares him for. Environmental concerns and sustainability he has been introduced to from higher secondary days. The demonstration of how concepts in landscape architecture intersect with architecture may be a good beginning. Each aspect of the undergraduate architecture programme can find an echo in landscape concerns. For example, structural engineering relates to grading, soil stabilisation, foundations, retaining walls; in history one revisits architectural examples but from a landscape perspective, gaining new insights, perhaps. Similary, with other courses such as climatology and building services.

Its important to establish that a course in landscape architecture needs to be seen somewhat differently from say courses in architectural structures or building services. Sometimes landscape architecture is projected as a set of techniques that can be applied in the manner of an engineering discipline, as say plumbing or structures. It is not unknown for students towards the completion stages of their thesis to make a visit to their landscape teacher for 'inputs' and techniques which can now be incorporated. Its too late to say anything useful then. Site planning is where everything starts. The structuring of a landscape course for undergraduate architect might be centred on concepts rather than only on techniques, its theme more akin to say Theory of Design, rather than Building Construction.



### New Members

Following is the list of new members of the ISOLA. We welcome them in ISOLA.

<b>FELLOW MEMBER</b>	Membership No.
Ms. Suneeta Bapat	B-36/F 2011
Mr. Santosh George	G-26/F 2011
Mr. Vikram B. Hingmire	H-6/F 2011
Ms. Vaishali V. Hingmire	H-7/F 2011
Mrs. Kirana R.	R-30/F 2011
Mr. Frederick Ribeiro	R-31/F 2011
Ms. Savita S. Raje	R-36/F 2012
<b>GRADUATE MEMBER</b>	Membership No.
Ms. Kirti Bhavsar	B-33/G 2011
Ms. Anju John	J-12/G 2011
Ms. Deepika Jauhari	J-13/G 2012
Ms. Ridhi Kapoor	K-48/G 2011
Ms. Urmila P. Metha	M-46/G 2011
Ms. Janaki Navneethan	N-18/G 2011
Ms. Priyal P. Naik	N-19/G 2011
Ms. Aditi Rathore	R-32/G 2011
Ms. Vidya V. Rajbhoj	R-33/G 2011
Ms. Rujuta A. Ranade	R-34/G 2011
Mr. Bhushan G. Suthar	S-52/G 2011
Ms. Himangi A. Shroff	S-53/G 2011
Ms. Niranjana Stalin	S-55/G 2011
Ms. Kanchanadevi Sokkalingam	S-56/G 2011
Ms. Kanku V. Trivedi	T-12/G 2011
Mr. Harish Vangara	V-21/G 2011

<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBER</b>	Membership No.
Mr. Gopal Bajaj	B-34/A 2011
Mr. Harsh Goel	G-25/A 2011
Mr. Shahid Sajauddin Joad	J-14/A 2012
Ms. Pournima Kshirsagar Thote	K-53/A 2012
Mr. Rohan Sinha	S-51/A 2011
<b>STUDENT MEMBER</b>	Membership No.
Ms. Shraddha N Bharati	B-35/S 2011
Ms. Bhavana Shyamkant Chinchwade	C-20/S 2011
Ms. Sonali S. Chaskar	C-21/S 2011
Ms. Shubhangi Subhash Chandra	C-22/S 2011
Mr. Kirthi Chandra	C-23/S 2011
Ms. Sarita S Gamare	G-27/S 2011
Ms. Neha R Ghugari	G-28/S 2011
Ms. Priyanka Gajawada	G-29/S 2011
Ms. Kanika Kumar	K-49/S 2011
Ms. Vaishali Kale	K-50/S 2011
Ms. Rashi P Kolhe	K-51/S 2011
Ms. Dhavalshree S Kumbhar	K-52/S 2011
Ms. Gulsultana Lanjekar	L-4/S 2011
Ms. Smita V. Marathe	M-47/S 2011
Ms. Deepa Muchandi	M-48/S 2011
Ms. Rutuja D Pote	P-45/S 2011
Ms. Nikhi Pendse	P-46/S 2011
Ms. Souporni Paul	P-47/S 2011
Ms. Uma Ajit Rege	R-35/S 2011
Ms. Prachi Shrikant Sagdeo	S-54/S 2011