

LANDSCAPE STORIES

A workshop ISOLA for Annual NASA, Bangalore

Mentors

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The 62nd Annual NASA Convention was held at Innovative Film City, Bangalore. Like the last few years this year also ISOLA was invite to conduct a workshop at the convention. The theme of the workshop for this year was “**LANDSCAPE STORIES.**”

The purpose / intent behind the workshop was about throwing light on the perception of Landscape in the Architectural domain. It aimed at understanding scale, range and role of Landscape in the environment for users (humans) and its significance ecologically. It also included the understanding of the various elements of landscape, networks and interactions.

Approximately 30 students participated in the workshop .The participants varied from students of first year architecture to third year architecture who came from 20 different towns in the country, which enabled them to share a brief idea about the different landscapes across our diverse country. This geographical mix in fact also helped ascertain certain common issues faced by towns and cities in recent years.

The 2 day workshop was broadly divided in 4 sections to sensitize students broaden the understanding of Landscape.

DAY 01

Session 01-Orientation

The first session started with an open discussion on ‘What is Landscape? It was further expanded by the mentors who guided them to come up with a chart composed of pointers that comprised of their understanding of different aspects of Landscape.

Followed by this was an attempt to understand various Natural layers in a Landscape and understanding their interdependencies.

To simplify these complex interconnected networks, the students enlisted the Natural layers and there attributes.

Session 01-Site Visit

The second session of the day comprised of a site visit to two water bodies near the venue. The students along with their mentors visited the Vrushabhavati, River Reservoir and Byaramangla pond nearby. The students were briefly informed about a natural resources and possible human impact on them.

They were left with the questions and asked to look up on information about similar such natural water resource in their own towns & cities.

DAY 02

The second day programme was scheduled in three stages. The students were to work in groups throughout the day, which encouraged them to interact with each other, understand and accept alternate view points and negotiate with each other. This enabled them understand Processes in design and also highlighted the fact that “process” is as important as the outcome.

The students were divided into 2 groups and given the topics of “Lakes” and “Rivers” each. Each group was further divided into three internal groups.

Session 01- Statement formation, Problem analysis and Design intervention

Each of the 6 groups were to come up with a problem/project statement regarding the topic given to them based on their previous day discussions and the understanding

Thus there were 3 groups with a problem statement on the same topic. The next internal group under the same topic reviewed the STATEMENT OF the earlier group and arrived at PROBLEM ANALYSIS. The Analysis was presented in a story format by the next group. The last group in circulation was to complete the story by DESIGN INTERVENTION which again was in terms of a visual story.

The internal debates and discussions while working on others group work enlightened them on gaps in communication and the pro-cons in a decision making processes.

Session 02- Presentation

After the last i.e. the third group was done with the design intervention the circulation was completed with each group heading back to the table where they had started with the problem statement. They now had to consolidate the work of the 3 groups together and present the work to the mentors and rest of the participants

The output in the form of the stories and graphical expressions were extraordinary considering the given time. This also stressed on multi-fold learning's from collaborative work in narrow timespan.

Overall student's reactions, comments inquisitiveness just showed us the intended sensitisation was achieved to a great extent indicating that the overall effort was thoroughly successful.