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Newsletter, 2016-17
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Architecture College
OmDayal Group of Institutions



OVERVIEW

OmDayal Group of Institutions was inceptioned with a selfless motive – to improve the quality of education in Bengal and provide the best of facilities when it comes to knowledge sharing. The need of the hour was to revolutionize education in school the society laid the foundation stone for DPS Ruby Park. Today the school has become an educational landmark of

Calcutta. Now, to raise the bar even higher in the field of technical education in the state, ODERS has opened the door for futureready technical education, which is at par with the best private institutes in our country.

With continuous effort, total dedication and continuous improvements ODERS is bringing in change that will enhance the future of our next generation and our nation as a whole.



MISSION

To provide state-of-the-art resources required to achieve excellence in teaching-learning, and supplementary processes.

To provide Faculty and Staff with the required qualification and competence

To motivate for their holistic development

To provide opportunity to the students to bring out their inherent talent.



The first batch of graduates are ready to take on the world. We still fondly remember the day these 30 odd students had walked in... that was in August 2012. The department has come a long way since. The students and teachers, both in increased numbers have been going places, both physically and literally. The journey till now has been quiet satisfying and we hope to continue in the same fashion in the future, too.



End Semester Design jury was conducted in December 2016. A good number of practising professionals and academicians from the city discussed the finer points of architectural practice and design thinking.



The usual design studio is also a mixture of displays and impromptu discussions. The mentor-student relationships have always been of utmost importance at OmDayal.





Even a brick wants to be something. – Louis Kahn



Students won

2nd prize in Architectural Quiz and

1st prize in Antakshari at TechnoScape.



First year and second year students attended an Architectural Fest organized by Techno India University in 2016. Ar. Manish Chakraborty and Ar. Indranil Sen delivered lectures on their work. The first year students were enthralled by such exposure in the initial phase of their academics.

Students attended a fest themed “Go Green” organized by AMITY UNIVERSITY, Kolkata in October 2016. Eminent speakers like Ar. Anjan Mitra, Mr. Dhananjay Dake and Mr. Debasish Sen presented lectures on their works. The students won First prize in Flexi Painting.



The first year students were taken to nearby school (Amraberia Hemanta Basu Prathamik Vidyalay) as a part of social outreach program. Our students entertained the kids with various activities, such as teaching, singing songs, drawing and painting etc. The kids, when spoken to after the visit, felt inspired by our students and wanted to walk on their path.

Prof. Debjani Mitra along with a few students conducted an interactive workshop with rural artists and performers at a village near Dubrajpur in Birbhum district.



Sustainable City Form – the SMART paradigm

Today IT is used in numerous ways to make life easier from mundane online shopping to sophisticated traffic management systems. The city is often believed to reflect the best in human potential it is thus no surprise that today IT having permeated in all walks of our lives, will have a far reaching influence on the city as well.

However, IT in spite of making deep inroads in our daily existence, we are still barely able to grapple its pervasiveness in urban life. Hence while Smart Cities may be marketed as a panacea to all our problems; cities left without intervention of Planners might land up as mere “wired” cities loaded with new ICT systems some superfluous and even detrimental.

To prevent such a future, intervention by urban planner and designers is crucial. Like communication systems earlier in history, IT enabled services by their potential of rapid global connectivity, are expected to change human life today. No invention can be regarded as a universal remedy having no negative side effects –but it has to be used appropriately to maximize its potential in making life easier for citizens. It is important to note that while communication systems have made life easier in some ways they have also brought their share of problems. For e.g. addiction to social media is being realized as a major social evil today. IT offers inexpensive connectivity and has the potential to disseminate information. However the systems is not without its limitations so Futuristic Visions like total dissolution of cities is neither possible technologically nor desirable ecologically. Such an occurrence would destroy natural habitats, which is against the goals of a sustainable future. However it may be affirmed as new technologies offer rapid inexpensive connectivity a trend of Regional Scale in Urban Development is being observed centered on major cities. Hence a city in the near futures will perhaps not be like compact medieval towns but a combination of suburbia and a central city connected to each other by hi speed transport as well as Virtual networks.

Kaustubh Das
Associate Professor



PITSTOP at Bareilly

The Zonal NASA convention for Zone4 was held at Invertis University, Bareilly, during October 2016. The Unit of ODSA comprised of 42 students. Despite many events being cancelled ODSA came out 6th overall with many trophies the major ones as mentioned below:-

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Main Design 1 | Special Mention 1 |
| 2. Design 30 | Special Mention 1 |
| 3. Convention Trophy | Special Mention 1 |
| 4. Fashion Show | First Prize |
| 5. Journalism | First Prize |
| 6. R-Factor | Second Prize |
| 7. Small Scale Production | Special Mention 1 |

The ODSA team received huge appreciation from all the other participating teams and the team returned home with light hearts and big smiles with the zeal to do even better next time.

Oindrilla Chatterjee
2nd Year Student

Sustainability – an important part of modernism

Sustainability beholding its meaning of conservation, is vital to achieve and yet important for the society to cater to the future needs. As modernism is speaking louder these days with digitization, it has molded our culture. But it doesn't mean we have lost the integrity of our heritage. Still we sometimes choose tradition over fashion, ethnicity over trend. In this world where individuality is difficult to maintain, one tries to cope up with the phase of this emerging technology to survive.

Hence, this brings deformation in the old tradition, as it is said to "Go with the Flow". This surely means that we hold our culture in a unique way which assimilates modern practices. After all we are the ones who make our society or culture. It is this individuality or uniqueness of the culture that marks our place in the world.

One should not deny opportunities that lead us to

a new path of change by modifying the rules of the past for a better future. Changes are constant. It is not a sudden action which takes place overnight but it evolves over time. Likewise, changes take place over time in our traditional practices too. After all it is for our better living. This lets us grow with time, to sustain, to fulfill our needs and to accomplish our worthy deeds. Changes have taken place, are taking place and will take place. Similarly we have evolved, are developing and will keep developing as long as there is life on earth.

If culture has to sustain, it has to go through evolution, one has to keep moving. Actions will be questioned, conflicts will be there but one thing which will sustain above all is humanity in YOU, ME and EVERYONE.

Sejal Agarwal
2nd Year Student



Sometimes hurdles aren't really hurdles at all. They're welcoming challenges or tests for us. It felt the same when circumstances pushed us to the verge of canceling our tour. After a number of meetings with the University Examination Cell, our Principal managed to postpone the exam dates to keep the tour schedule intact. In the morning of the day of journey we got a regret message that the train had been cancelled.

The whole credit of rescheduling the tour goes to tour co-ordinator, who somehow managed to get all the tickets re-booked for the same day in a different train. The idea to join both the senior and junior batches at Jaipur was a hit. Prior to that, the senior batch of students had seen the Mehrangarh fort; fort cities like Jaishalmer. At

Jaipur the combined group consisting of 143 students, visited Jaipur fort, Jantar Mantar and finally one building of the contemporary replication of these architectural styles- Jawahar Kala Kendra, by Charles Correa.

Third year students took the lead throughout and passed on the baton to the second years on last day. In spite of the examination pressure they didn't spare a small opportunity to learn with fun.

My fellow colleagues Arnab Jana, Madhuchhanda Mandal and Nakshatra Sen were there with all their help and support to make it a success.

Sandipan Sinha
Asst. Professor





Architecture is an expression of values. – Norman Foster



A Seminar by eminent conservation Architect Manish Chakraborty was held in March, 2017, attended by third year students. He shared his experiences which inspired the students to do a follow up program of Heritage Walk at Dalhousie Square, Kolkata.



Sustainable Building Construction

Construction industry is one of the biggest industries in the world. Thus it becomes the largest user of materials either obtained naturally or from artificial resources thus having great impact on sustainable development; environmentally, socially and economically.

Locally available building materials and construction techniques are the most sustainable construction methods that have been used for many years for constructing local buildings. For example, building construction technology known as “Dhajji Dewari”, an earth quake resistant structure is still being used by the people of Kashmir (India) and Northern Himalayan Mountains (Pakistan). The term “Dhajji” means patch work which the local carpet weavers use to describe the patch worked quilts. It had been observed that many of the Dhajji Dewari houses behaved outstandingly well over the modern buildings made of reinforced concrete construction during a 7.6 magnitude earth quake which struck Northern Pakistan on 8th October, 2005. This highly earth quake resistant straight forward construction can easily be built from locally available materials; timber and masonry supported by modern construction methods. The traditional building construction combined with the modern construction methodology has been found to be extremely beneficial and sustainable in earth quake prone areas in terms of social, economical and

environmental responsibilities.

Similar type of construction can also found around the world namely Britain, France, Germany, Central America, South America, Turkey, Portugal and Italy (ARUP, 2011) In India it is also termed as “brick nogging timber construction” In today’s context, the use of advanced building materials and sustainable construction technology is becoming more imperative due to the increasing scarcity of natural resources. The expression “sustainable construction” is being used more and more, it is necessary to distinguish between the sustainability of the construction activity and the sustainability of works constructed (Mora, Eduardo Peris, 2007). Thus use of proper building material has vast impact on the environment. Careful selection of environmentally sustainable building materials is the easiest way for architects to begin incorporating sustainable design principles in buildings. A “cradle -to-grave” analysis of building products, from the gathering of raw materials to their ultimate disposal, provides a better understanding of the longterm costs of materials. These costs are paid not only by the client, but also by the owner, the occupants, and the environment. In the end, the term sustainability should not be restricted in the selection of proper building materials, it should also be a practice.

Madhuchhanda Biswas
Assistant Professor

Universal Design

Throughout the world, environmental degradation has become a common factor due to the rapid growth of communities and subsequent resource augmentation. There is also a relationship between the growth of economy and environmental degradation, based on population densities, economic growth, environmental factors and others. Holistically, the environmental impact of a community depends on the activity pattern of people which is in relation with the carrying capacity of the ecosystem. This paper deals with the proper application of solar energy which acts as a tool for preservation of the ecosystem in the context of universal design process.

Solar Energy has been harnessed by humans since the ancient times. The radiation from the sun along with other solar powered resources such as wind, hydroelectricity and biomass etc. accounts for most of the available renewable energy on earth. Universal Design is the design and composition of an environment, which would meet the need of people of all age groups, so that it can be easily accessed, understood and used in an extensive way regardless of their age, size, ability or disability.

Universal design principles have a close propinquity with the green houses having a good thermal envelope where the sun and its energy have been

playing a pivotal role. The energy from the sun along with the proper insulating materials and creation of comfortable indoor environment benefits all occupants. Pertaining to universal design, it is possible to design a building with passive solar technologies thus creating magnificent spaces which are well ventilated and lighted with proper day lighting, having good visual potential and thus feeling comfortable throughout the year. This aligns with the notion of universal design as it renders the building more usable, efficient and accessible in a way providing more natural light.

It is evident that sun and its energy create a substantial impact on the designing of buildings. Moreover, these buildings are accessed and used by people. Hence a building acts as a proponent of solar energy on one side and universal design, adhering to users on the other.

In future, this would help to plan necessary interventions in this particular subject matter. Apart from the radiation of the sun other forms of power resources such as wind, hydroelectricity and biomass could also be adjudged in future in relation to universal design, which accounts for most of the available renewable energy on Earth.

Abhiroop Das
Assistant Professor



Prof. Kalyan Mukherjee was invited to present a published paper at a Conference on Urban Regeneration organized by the MVP College of Architecture at Nashik in February 2017. A tour of the old areas of the town, through some interesting public spaces, was also conducted as part of the conference.



Faculty and students of the College put up a study on the urban transformation of Harish Mukherjee Road at the Rotary Sadan, Kolkata in July 2016. The exhibition, named Reliving the Past, was attended by professional Architects and students of Architecture from other Colleges and Institution.

A seminar was organized during the event. The proceedings included a discussion on the Legacy of a City, included speakers Ar. Partha Ranjan Das, Ar. Arunabha Dasgupta, Social Geographer Prof. Annapurna Shaw and Graphic Designer, Dr. Somsankar Roy.

The study is a documentation of evolution of Harish Mukherjee Road over a time frame of more than a century and it still changes carrying the signature of the past to create an eclectic mixture of architectural styles of different periods of Kolkata. This documentation probably someday will give someone an opportunity to read the city, just like we did, with respect to the past as well as taking the future in consideration.



Faculty members Ar. Atasi Chatterjee, Ar. Meghla Nath, Ar. Janani Ranganathan and Ar. Sumanta Deb Attended a 3 week UGC sponsored Refresher Course on Built Environment and Sustainable technologies at Jadavpur University, Kolkata in January 2017.

Prof. Suranjana Chaudhuri attended a seminar by GIAN (Global Initiative for Academic Networks) course on Reducing Disaster Risks in Historic Urban Areas at IIT, Kharagpur in November 2016.

Suranjana, earlier, had also joined as a speaker to the panel discussion on “Infrastructure and Interiors to promote Inclusivity - A Barrier free environment for Differently Abled People”



Prof. Kaustubh Das and Prof. Sumanta Deb presented papers at Research Scholar Colloquium at IEST, Shibpur and Prof. Sumanta Deb received the best paper award in the category of Architecture and Planning.



Prof. Sandipan Sinha was invited to present a paper at the International conference on Infrastructure and Real Estate, ICCRI, organized in NICMAR, Pune



Prof. Kalyan Mukherjee was invited to give a presentation on integration of Green Building in Architectural academics organized by USGBC.

Prof. Madhuchhanda Mandal Biswas has attended a NIASA organized sustainability sensitizing workshop at Pune in June 2016.



Prof. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Madhuchhanda Mandal Biswas and Arnab Jana attended a 3 day ECBC seminar & workshop at Jadavpur University, organized by AEG & Jadavpur University.

SRIJANI

An Exhibition

of students' works

Department of Architecture

Venue: DPS Ruby Park, Kolkata (Senior School)

Dates: 2, 3, 4 June 2017

Time: 2.00pm to 8.00pm



ARCHITECTURE COLLEGE OMDAYAL GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS

Campus

Plot No.38(P), 38(A), 39(P) & 39(A)
Uluberia Industrial Growth Centre
Near Birshibpur Railway Station
Uluberia, Howrah 711 316
T: 99039 71469, 84201 93274, 99033 24999
P: 2661 3179 F: 2661 3366

Administrative Office

Flat No. 40, Queens Mansion
3rd Floor, Gate No. 4
12 Park Street, Kolkata 700 071
T: 033 2227 5967

admissions@oders.in
www.oder.in