HACKING KOWLOON EAST Technology for Activating Urban Life

January 2021
Even before the pandemic, digital technology were changing patterns of social and economic life in cities. With the growth of e-commerce and other digital platforms, urban experiences are increasingly mediated through virtual platforms. While lockdowns have led to a diminishing of urban social life, this crisis also presents an opportunity to re-imagine how citizens relate to each other. Can technology play a positive role in bringing citizens together and helping more urban dwellers access social and economic opportunities? Planners and designers can help cities re-imagine what is possible in this “new normal”.

MIT SA+P, in partnership with the MIT Hong Kong Innovation Node, is proud to offer a ‘virtual design course” bringing students from Hong Kong and MIT together to address some of the challenges cities are facing now. Students are expected to participate in a January charrette, held virtually and synchronously between Hong Kong and Boston. Throughout the Spring, the course will meet weekly. Students will be organized into groups, each focused on developing a master plan for activating a particular part of Hong Kong’s Kowloon East area, using both architectural as well as digital strategies.

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**ABOUT MIT HONG KONG INNOVATION NODE**

The MIT Hong Kong Innovation Node is committed to building a community of students, entrepreneurs, universities, and businesses consistent with the MIT philosophy of Mens et Manus (Mind and Hand), for the benefit of all. Its mission is to:

- Enrich the educational experiences of MIT and Hong Kong students working together;
- Provide the Hong Kong community with new opportunities to study and practice methods of accelerated innovation; and
- Foster and champion innovation globally in academic, commercial, and social communities in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area.

The MIT Hong Kong Innovation Node is conducting an equitable assessment of activities in the workforce and small business developments in Hong Kong’s Kowloon East area (Kwun Tong District).
Brent D. Ryan is Head of the City Design and Development Group and Associate Professor of Urban Design and Public Policy in MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning. His research focuses on the aesthetics and policies of contemporary urban design, particularly with respect to pressing issues like deindustrialization and climate change. Professor Ryan’s first book Design After Decline: How America rebuilds shrinking cities, was one of Planetizen’s ten best urban planning books of 2012, and his second book The Largest Art: A measured manifesto for plural urbanism, was published by MIT Press in 2017.


Professor Ryan conducts urban design research and practice around the world, including China, Ukraine, Russia, Japan, and the United States. Current research includes a study of sustainability in Siberian cities, funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation and a study of principles for sea level rise adaptation in the coastal United States. Professor Ryan has consulted for the World Bank, Google, and the Armenian Tumo Foundation relating to cities, urban design, economic and demographic shifts.

Prior to joining MIT, Professor Ryan taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he was also Co-Director of the City Design Center. Professor Ryan holds a B.S. in biology from Yale University, a M. Arch. from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in urban design and planning from MIT.

Ms. Sunnie S.Y. Lau graduated with a B.A in Architecture from University of California, Berkeley; and later on obtained her Master of Architecture, and Certificate in Urban Design from M.I.T. Her international experiences begun with renowned architectural practices prior to postgraduate study at the M.I.T.; she worked with Morphosis Architects L.A., MVRDV Rotterdam, on international competitions, cultural projects and large scale urban developments. Her academic research focuses on smart city – Inclusive innovation for communities, urban masterplanning, urban mobility and smart infrastructure, architectural and urban typologies with an interest in creative and innovative sustainable design strategies (SDGs).

She believes that human-centric design promotes inclusive communities with innovative sustainable design strategies and architects play an important role within the built environment with her early research-orient urban design practice. Taking up the roles of both practitioner and educator, she has been promoting architecture by designing, exhibiting, writing as outreach, and engaging communities. The endeavors included Co-Curator & Exhibitor of the Hong Kong Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale Of Urbanism\Architecture (Hong Kong) 2017, 2019, Venice Biennale (HK) 2020 , publicizing ongoing research topics on Kowloon East Inclusive Innovation & Growth, Urban research-oriented design seminar – “Urban Mobility and Smart Infrastructure” and facilitating dialogue between professionals, academia and young professionals at various cross disciplinary platforms. She has been a regular design critic besides instructor at the architecture and urban design programs at various universities.

Mr. Andrew Stokols is an urban planner/designer and researcher. He is currently a Phd student at MIT in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning. His research currently explores the relationship between the spatial aspects of the innovation economy, the relationship of urban design and innovation, and how cities can respond to the challenges of digital platforms that have profoundly reorganized urban life.
Ms. Mengqi (Moon) He is an architectural and urban designer. She received her Master of Science from MIT and Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Southern California. During her time at MIT, she has gained interdisciplinary experience from projects on architectural and urban design, resilience, smart city, and multimodal transportation systems. Her graduate thesis investigated the impact of river restoration on urban space and culture and proposed a participatory design method with transmedia storytelling. Previously, she has worked at the MIT Senseable City Lab, Junya Ishigami + Associates, and Preliminary Research Office. She was one of the initiators and the teaching assistant of the Hacking Chengdu course in 2019.

Master of Science in Architecture Studies (SMArchS) in Architecture and Urbanism '20
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

#Architecture #UrbanDesign #CivicParticipation #SocialEquity #Resilience

Ms. Ellena Wong is a MLA I AP candidate at the GSD. She is a landscape designer based in Hong Kong and works as a teaching assistant at HKU after completing her bachelor degree in landscape architecture there. Ellena is also the associate director of Place Making Lab at the Hong Kong Public Space Initiatives. She is devoted to local place-making events and is interested in landscape urbanism. She enjoys immersing herself in the wilderness.

Master of Landscape Architecture Candidate
Graduate School of Design, Harvard University

#LandscapeArchitecture #Urbanism #PlaceMaking

Mr. Aaron C.P. Ng graduated with a Bachelor in Child and Youth Care from University of Victoria, B.C. Canada and is currently obtaining his Postgraduate programs in Art Therapy and Social Work at Vancouver Art Therapy Institute and The University of Hong Kong. He has international experience working with children and elders with diverse functional level and cultural background in family, education and therapeutic settings. He is passionate at reducing social isolation through micro and macro means, to enhance quality life of families and people going through different life challenges.

Postgraduate Candidate in Art Therapy and Social Work
at Vancouver Art Therapy Institute and The University of Hong Kong

#ArtTherapy #SocialWork

Mr. Aaron C.P. Ng graduated with a Bachelor in Child and Youth Care from University of Victoria, B.C. Canada and is currently obtaining his Postgraduate programs in Art Therapy and Social Work at Vancouver Art Therapy Institute and The University of Hong Kong. He has international experience working with children and elders with diverse functional level and cultural background in family, education and therapeutic settings. He is passionate at reducing social isolation through micro and macro means, to enhance quality life of families and people going through different life challenges.
**Hacking Kowloon East (HKE) Week 1 - JAN 4 - 10, 2021**

**Monday, Jan 4**
- **10:00 - 10:15 AM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #1: Prof. Kevin Wai-Chung Chou (Zoom)
- **10:15 - 10:30 AM**
  - Break
- **10:30 - 11:00 AM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #2: Ms. Patsy Ho

**Tuesday, Jan 5**
- **10:00 - 10:15 AM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #3: Ms. Ka-Hwa H. Fong & Mr. Junchuan Yang (Zoom)
- **10:15 - 10:30 AM**
  - Break
- **10:30 - 11:00 AM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #4: Mr. Kevin Cheung King (ArchSD) - "Twitch Public Spaces"

**Wednesday, Jan 6**
- **10:00 - 10:15 PM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #5: Ms. Ka-Hwa H. Fong & Mr. Junchuan Yang (Zoom)
- **10:15 - 10:30 PM**
  - Break
- **10:30 - 11:00 PM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #14 - Ms. Patsy Ho on KE inclusive LCSD- EKCC Intro by Ms. Arian Hassani

**Thursday, Jan 7**
- **10:00 - 10:15 PM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #6: Mr. Kevin Cheung King (ArchSD) - "Rethink Public Spaces"
- **10:15 - 10:30 PM**
  - Break
- **10:30 - 11:00 PM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #15 - Dr. Rooman C.C. Wai

**Friday, Jan 8**
- **10:00 - 10:15 PM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #7- Mr. Kwow Cheung King (ArchSD) - "Outro"
- **10:15 - 10:30 PM**
  - Break
- **10:30 - 11:00 PM**
  - Present souvenir + Photo

**Saturday, Jan 9**
- **10:00 - 10:15 PM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #8- Prof. Ronald Lu
- **10:15 - 10:30 PM**
  - Break
- **10:30 - 11:00 PM**
  - Group Discussion and Q&A- Moderator- Sunnie Experts

**Sunday, Jan 10**
- **10:00 - 10:15 PM**
  - Domain Expert Lecture #9- Ms. Patsy Ho
- **10:15 - 10:30 PM**
  - Break
- **10:30 - 11:00 PM**
  - Wrap up Discussion and Design

**Legend:**
- **Guest Speaker**
- **Group Check-in w/ Brent**
- **Team Project and Coaching Presentation**
- **Activity Break**
- **Team-paced project development time differences**
- **Team-paced project development accommodating time differences**
## Hacking Kowloon East IAP Workshop Jan 4-16 Schedule

### Week 1: Monday - Friday

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### Legend:
- **Guest Speaker**
- **Cohort Sessions**
- **Group Check-in w/ Brent**
- **Team Project and Coaching Presentation**
- **Activity Break**
Yoonjae Oh

Master of Architecture, Second Year
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Born and raised in Seoul, South Korea, Yoonjae is pursuing a Master's degree in architecture at MIT. Her interest relies on future living styles and user-centered architecture, specifically fostering knowledge in design-sensitive and sustainable residences in urban areas. As a student, she is most interested in exploring how architecture outfits lifestyle changes. Before joining MIT, Yoonjae holds an undergraduate degree in Housing and Interior Design from Kyung Hee University. In her free time, she enjoys taking virtual tours worldwide and drawing graphic resources.

Carolyn Tam

Master of Architecture, Third Year
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Carolyn is an architectural designer based in Hong Kong and Massachusetts. Her work stretches across the fields of architecture, art, and product design. Educated from the MIT, Bartlett School of Architecture and the Imperial College of London, her current interest lies in urban data science, digital mapping, intelligent transportation system, and the interaction between cities and new technologies.

Joel Cunningham

Master of Science in Architecture Studies(Design), First Year
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Joel Austin is a architectural practitioner and researcher from the UK. His independent projects explore experimental modes of practice that prioritize socio-technological agendas and have been selected for exhibition at Manifesta Biennale and the Venice Biennale of Architecture. Joel holds a Master of Architecture from the Royal College of Art and has practiced professionally in both Europe and Asia with the architecture office OMA. He is currently a SMArchS research candidate at MIT.
Master of City Planning, Second Year
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Ava is a second-year Master in City Planning student in the International Development Group and a research assistant with the MIT Displacement Research & Action Network. Her interests relate to land and housing rights — and organizing against evictions and displacement — in the context of mega-projects. Prior to DUSP, she coordinated research at Catalytic Communities in Rio de Janeiro and was a collaborating researcher at the New Social Cartography of the Amazon Project in Manaus, Brazil. Ava is originally from San Francisco and holds a BA in Comparative Urban Development Studies from Princeton University.

Geunhee Lee is a UX designer and design researcher, currently studying in the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Highly motivated to research the digital transformation of governance and public information; focusses research on the dynamics of intentions and actions underlying civic engagement that lead toward networked social movement.

Master of Architecture, Third Year
Harvard University

Tiange Wang is a M.Arch I candidate at GSD. She moved to Boston for graduate study after completing her undergrad in architecture at UC Berkeley. She has worked in Boston, San Francisco and Beijing. Her interest lies in the intersection between design and technology, data visualization and alternative forms of representation. Outside of her workspace she can most likely be found in the outdoors and the kitchen.

Linlan Zeng (Lynna) is currently pursuing a Master of Architecture at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She is a passionate enthusiast of urban dynamism and innovation, particularly interested in public space. She enjoys the process of teamwork and active learning with curiosity and an open mind.
Yiting Pu is a currently a graduate student in architecture with a bachelor’s degree in urban and rural planning. He had internship experiences in planning institutes and architecture ateliers. He likes to explore lots of things outside of architecture. Recently, he has been engaged in a sci-fi video. Next, he might study programming, circuit, design, and so on as processes of exploration.

Tongping Hao is a second-year PhD student in the Department of Urban Planning and Design at the University of Hong Kong. Her research interests include urban micro climate urban modeling, computer simulation and design optimization.

Jiajun Wen is a graduate student in architecture at HKU, while his bachelor’s degree is in landscape architecture. In the design aspect, he likes to break the boundary between architecture and landscape to rethink the relationship between these two. In the aspect of the campus life, acting as the executive president in postgraduate student association at HKU, he mainly serves the students in career development.

Adolphus Lau is a management consultant at Arcadis, a consultancy focusing on Smart City Development in Hong Kong. Adolphus is specialized in innovation policy planning and technology-business integration. He is also actively involved in advanced product development, with interests in new interfaces to improve quality of life. He obtained a masters in urban planning from the University of Hong Kong and a BA in Architecture from University of Toronto.

Yuming Cui (Tracy) is currently a research assistant at HKU Department of Urban Planning and Design. Before becoming a researcher, she has worked as an architect and urban designer for five years. She is familiar with both academia and industry.
Chi Chiu Cheng (David)

Master of Science in Urban Planning, First Year
University of Hong Kong

David Cheng has various experiences in urban planning related researches. He was a former research assistant of the Department of Urban Planning and Design of the HKU, participating in the research project “Spatial Age Segregation and Ageism: A Social Psychological Analysis of Age-specific Housing”. In addition, the Community Planning Studio and Spatial Planning Studio has given him a lot of insight into the Kowloon District. The Baseline Report of the studio, which is about creating an age-friendly Kowloon City, was released to HK PolyU Design Institute for Social Innovation (DISI) for reference. Apart from a more macroscopic perspective, David is also interested in urban design. He has participated in some urban design competitions, such as the “HKIUD Greater Bay Area Urban Design Award”.

Isuru Biyanwila

Master of Science in Urban Planning, Second Year
University of Hong Kong

Isuru Biyanwila is Chartered Town Planner from Sri Lanka, with nearly a decade of experience in both private and public sector organizations in Sri Lanka. He is a Chartered Town Planner in the Urban Development Authority of Sri Lanka and currently pursuing M.Sc. in Urban Planning at the University of Hong Kong as and ABD-JSP Fellow. Before enrolling in the master’s program, he has served for Colombo Port City Development Project in the capacity of Chartered Town Planner. He has diverse research interests related to urban carrying capacities, sustainable development, technology integration for planning, smart cities, knowledge-based development.

Xiangyi Li

Master of Landscape Architecture, First Year
University of Hong Kong

Xiangyi is currently studying in Master of Landscape Architecture at the University of Hong Kong. She has previously studied landscape for undergraduate and one-year postgraduate at Beijing Forestry University. Her interests include urban ecological environment, human health, big data, and deep learning space. Her interest is in the mechanism and impact of ecological landscape on humans.

Claire Cheng

Master of Design (Urban Environments Design), Second Year
Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Claire Cheng is from Mainland China. She is currently a postgraduate student in the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, majoring in Urban Environment Design. Before that, She graduated as an Architecture student.

Yingjing Lu

Master of Design (Urban Environments Design), Second Year
Hong Kong Polytechnic University

The future urban landscape and public realm under the guidance of information technology has always been an area of people’s obsession. As our environment is getting more and more wrapped by digital content and intelligent devices such as AR/VR/IoT, and a lot of work and activity information in our life is gradually migrating to these digitalized spaces, Yingjia think this twin state of the physical world and the digital world will become the next new normal of our world. She hopes to obtain a new understanding of technology-dominated urban life after the workshop.

Zhixia Chen (Sharon)

Master of Design (Urban Environments Design), Second Year
Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Chen Zhixia (Sharon) is a postgraduate student majoring in Urban Environments Design at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Landscape Architecture.

Yun Zhang (Wyn)

Master of Science in Multimedia & Entertainment Technology, First Year
Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Yun Zhang (Wyn) is currently a student in the multimedia and entertainment technology program at PolyU. She majored in landscape architecture in her undergraduate study. She has worked as an interaction designer. She is interested in helping others to solve their problems and design great experiences for them. She is optimistic and always willing to participate in different activities.
Ms. Tracy Wong is a Senior Town Planner from the Strategic Planning Section of Planning Department. Under the territorial planning of Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030, her role is to guide the planning for liveability enhancement in dense built-up areas. Specifically, she is supervising the Reimagining Public Spaces in Hong Kong-Feasibility Study with a view to redefine the concept of open space, propose amendments to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and compile a territorial spatial database. She was previously the Place Making Manager (Planning) of the Energizing Kowloon East Office, Development Bureau.

Ms. Carol So is currently the Senior Manager (East Kowloon Cultural Centre) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. She is leading a team of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre to work on execution of programmes to engage the arts circle, audience development and community engagement, marketing of venue identity with an aim to promote the converging of arts and advanced technology.

Ms. Joyce Tang is a civil engineer and has extensive experience in planning, design and project management of civil infrastructure projects. She joined the multi-disciplinary Energizing Kowloon East Office in 2014 and is mainly responsible for taking forward the “Walkable Kowloon East” and “Smart City Pilot Area” initiatives.

Dr. Ronald Lu was born in Hong Kong but grew up in Sydney, Australia. He graduated with a B.Arch degree in Australia and worked in Hong Kong before undertaking graduate studies in Architecture at MIT. Dr. Lu returned to Hong Kong in 1973 and started his own practice in 1976. The practice has its main office in Hong Kong and 4 offices in China. They are in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. The practice promotes sustainability through its wide range of projects. Many projects have been for Developments over railway stations which is known as Transport Oriented Design.

Prof. Dr. Chau Kwong Wing has been teaching at The University of Hong Kong since 1987 and is currently Chair Professor of Real Estate and Construction. He also served as Dean of Faculty of Architecture and Head of Department of Real Estate and Construction. Prof. Dr. Chau was elected as president of many local and international academic and professional bodies including the Asian Real Estate Society (1998-7), International Real Estate Society (2000-01), Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors and Chinese Research Institute of Construction Management (2014-2017).

Prof. Dr. Chau has published and presented over 400 academic papers. He received the International Real Estate Society Achievement Award in 1999 in recognition of achievement in research at the international level. Prof. Dr. Chau’s main areas of research include real estate finance and economics, real estate valuation, real estate price index and sustainable development. Most of his works are empirical studies with implications for policy makers, practitioners and investors.
Mr. Donald Choi is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Chinachem Group. He was the Managing Director of Nan Fung Development and before Nan Fung, Director of Foster and Partners and the Authorized Person – Architect for the Hong Kong International Airport Passenger Terminal (HKIA Silver Medal Winner) and many infrastructure projects at Chek Lap Kok. He is a Global Trustee of the Urban Land Institute, President (2021 & 2022) of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, President (2020-2022) of the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design, Trustee of Rhode Island School of Design, Chief Curator for the Hong Kong Exhibition at the 17th Venice Architecture Biennale 2021, the Chairperson of the Board of Construction Innovation and Technology Application Centre, a Board Member of the Hong Kong Green Building Council, the Business Environment Council and the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation.

Prof. Dr. Yi Zhu is an associate professor in the School of Public Economics and Administration at the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. He received his PhD degree in Urban Research and Planning from MIT in 2014. Prof. Dr. Zhu is also a co-founder of FusionTree, a startup focuses on the integration and analytics of urban data for urban management and applications.

Ms. Patsy Ho is the Cities Data and Product Lead at Citymapper, managing a team that manage the operations in 60+ regions and innovate the journey planner. She has driven improvement to data quality and establish product strategy from data analysis, user researches, latest development of smart mobility in 60+ cities (and counting) e.g. public transport, cycle & kick scooter routing, public transport crowding level and disruption, and real-time alternative routes suggestions.

Ms. Wai-duen Lee has 19 years’ experience in consultancy, focusing on transport and infrastructure projects, and is currently manager of Arthur D. Little based in Hong Kong. Her clients include transport operators, investors, multilateral development banks, and central and local governments, and has undertaken projects in 21 countries in Asia, the Americas, Africa, and Australasia.

Ms. Lee received her MCP from MIT, and BA (Economics) and BSc (Environmental Economics and Policy) from UC Berkeley.

Mr. Gene Soo is the Head of Ecosystem at MTR. Having led the creation of Hong Kong’s startup ecosystem by co-founding StartupsHK (now known as StartupsGBA), Mr. Soo is now tasked with building new businesses and enhancing the core MTR business with technology, partnerships, and new models. Prior to his role at MTR, Mr. Soo was the General Manager at Citymapper and led the launch of Citymapper into Hong Kong in 2015. Since then, Citymapper has become the most complete transport app in Hong Kong covering MTR, buses, trams, ferries, minibuses (including red ones) helping people interconnect all these transportation modes and getting them to their destination.
Ms. Helena H. Rong is an urbanist and designer working at the intersection of design, technology and urban research. She is currently a PhD student at Columbia University, focusing on digital city applications and civic engagement. She received her Master of Science in Urbanism degree from MIT and Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University. Ms. Rong works as a Research Associate at the MIT Real Estate Innovation Lab, where she leads the "Value of Design" research pillar. Previously, Ms. Rong was a researcher at the MIT Senseable City Lab, where she led the development of a travel optimization model to museums in Amsterdam using autonomous boats. Ms. Rong is the founder of CIVIS Design and Advisory LLC, an interdisciplinary design and research practice based in Boston.

Mr. Juncheng Yang is the partner of CIVIS Design & Advisory and a researcher at MIT Real Estate Innovation Lab. He is interested in exploring the potential links between urban design, local economic development, and real estate. Mr. Yang was awarded his B.Arch, magna cum laude and with Distinction in Creative Works and Research, from Rice University in 2016 and he was also the recipient of both the First Prize and the Second Prize of the Margaret Everson-Fossi Traveling Fellowship. In 2017, Mr. Yang obtained the MSc in Regional and Urban Planning Studies degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where he also received the Royal Geographical Society IBG research fund for his dissertation research on urban governance and redevelopment in Shanghai.

An MSRED graduate of MIT Center for Real Estate in 2007, Mr. Yong (Tony) Wang is an expert in China senior living focusing on building up a local operating platform for Watermark Retirement Communities from the U.S. To adapt U.S. best practices and experiences towards Chinese tradition and culture, Mr. Wang and his colleagues have been exploring ways to open up senior living communities for inter-generation activities and programs. Mr. Wang also holds a Master of Applied Science in Building Engineering from Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, and a Bachelor Degree of Mechanical Engineering from Southwest Petroleum University in Sichuan, China.

Ms. Kimberly Vermeer, LEED AP Homes, is an interdisciplinary green building and sustainability practitioner, with a special focus in the multigenerational and affordable housing sectors. Through her company, Urban Habitat Initiatives Inc., she offers strategic consulting to developers to advance sustainability and climate resilience. Committed to delivering the benefits of green building to vulnerable populations, Ms. Vermeer works with teams to incorporate energy efficiency and renewable energy, water conservation, healthy housing and climate resilience into their projects. Ms. Vermeer is co-author, with Walker Wells, of the book Blueprint for Greening Affordable Housing, Revised Edition, published in July 2020. Her background includes housing finance, policy and development.

Ms. Hassani has over seventeen years of experience in workforce development, most recently at J.P. Morgan, where she created and funded multi-million dollar workforce development programs, helping tens of thousands of jobseekers up-skill and find quality employment across Asia Pacific.

Ms. Hassani started her career in the media and global communications investment banking team at Merrill Lynch in New York. She holds a Master’s in Public Administration in International Development from Harvard Kennedy School, and a Bachelor’s in economics and German studies from Brown University, where she was awarded a Fulbright scholarship.

Ms. Vermeer is co-author, with Walker Wells, of the book Blueprint for Greening Affordable Housing, Revised Edition, published in July 2020. Her background includes housing finance, policy and development.

Mr. Yan Zhang 'Ryan' is a PhD researcher in City Science group at the MIT Media Lab. He is developing and deploying CityScope – an AI-enabled urban decision support system, which democratizes the urban decision-making process by providing people the right tools to understand and collaboratively participate the urban design intuitively. His research work also includes a variety of interdisciplinary projects focusing on machine learning, data analysis and visualization, optimization, complex geometry, etc. Mr. Zhang has a background of architecture for more than ten years. He holds a Master at Columbia University and Bachelor at Tongji University for architecture, and worked as an architect for two world-leading design firms, SOM and GMP. His architecture practice includes Shanghai Oriental Sports Center.
Hacking Kowloon East

Kwok Cheung King
Chief Project Manager of Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), HKSAR Government

#UrbanDesign #UrbanPlanning #HeritageAndConservation #PublicWorks

Mr. Kwok Cheung King joined the Architectural Services Department, the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (ArchSD) in 1996. In his first 20 years of service, he was an in-house architect, involving in a wide range of public works projects, from institutional buildings, heritage conservation works to open space development. As Chief Project Manager in ArchSD, Mr. King is taking charge of a number ofpromenadenhancement works, green tourism projects in country parks and government complex developments.

In personal capacity, Mr. King is also Board of Director in Hong Kong Architecture Centre and was Committee Member in HKIA on Heritage & Conversation and Planning & Urban Design, giving advice on issues related to conservation and urban design, giving talks and publishing papers in UIA PHG Paris, Shanghai & Hong Kong Symposium on Science and Technology, Cross-Strait HK & Macao Symposium on Reuse of Architectural Heritage, HKIA Joint Seminar at Guangzhou, HKIA x AAM Joint Seminar, CIOB CPD and Healthy City Design Conferences.

Harvard GSD DDes '13, MIT MCP '07
Assistant Professor at HKU

#UrbanPlanning #Development #Design #Sustainability

Prof. Dr. Jianxiang Huang is an assistant professor in the Department of Urban Planning and Design at the University of Hong Kong (HKU). He is interested in the shaping of the built environment to enhance human well-being and resource efficiency. At HKU, he leads research projects to assess the thermal, acoustic and building energy performances in high density cities. He is the author of CityComfort+, a computer simulation tool that is equipped to simulate pedestrian comfort in outdoor urban spaces. Huang is a member of the Sustainable High Density Cities Lab and Healthy High Density Cities Lab, both are interdisciplinary research centers across disciplines of Engineering, Medicine, and Architecture. He studies place-making using geo-located social media data and he coordinates the Master of Urban Design programme at HKU. Prior to a career in academia, Prof. Dr. Huang worked as an architect and urban designer in China and USA. Prof. Dr. Huang holds a Doctor of Design from Harvard University, a Master in City Planning from MIT, a M.Arch and a B.Arch from Tsinghua University.

HKU PhD '14 & M.Sc. in Conservation '05

#HongKongPublicHousing

Dr. Rosman C.C. Wai is a lecturer in the Architectural Conservation Programme, Faculty of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong. She is a registered architect and has worked in the Hong Kong Housing Department for many years. She was the Vice-President of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects during 2015-16. She has published many articles on public housing, and has been interviewed by various newspapers, television and radio stations as well as given talks and lectures in many local and international conferences and universities. Her book, "Design DNA OF Mark I - Hong Kong's Public Housing Prototype" has won the 10 Best Architectural Book of the year by the DAM (Deutsches Architekturmuseum) Book Award 2020.

Edwin Wong
Deputy Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office (EKEO) of the Development Bureau, HKSAR Government

#Architecture #GovernmentPolicy

Mr. Edwin Wong is an Architect by profession for more than 27 years. He has been an active member in the architectural and urban design fields as well as in the engineering and construction industry in Hong Kong. He has been involved in many different types of public works projects of various natures and complexities throughout his career, particularly dedicated in the planning, administration and delivery of mega design and construction projects.

Mr. Wong is the Deputy Head of Energizing Kowloon East Office (EKEO) of the Development Bureau. He advocates EKEO’s policy initiatives to transform Kowloon East from an old industrial area into another core business district to support the long-term economic development of Hong Kong.

MIT SMArchS, MCP '91
Founder and Director of studio[Ci] LLC

#Architecture #Urbanism #HybridizedPublicRealm #Infrastructure

Ms. Constance Bodurow is Founder and Director of studio[Ci] LLC, a transdisciplinary design collaborative based in Detroit, MI USA. She is an urbanist with 25+ years of professional practice and 17 years of teaching experience, holding master’s degrees from the MIT School of Architecture and Planning. Her award-winning design and research focus on net zero energy beyond the building; generative uses for vacancy; and equitable hybridized infrastructure networks. Ms. Bodurow has received numerous design awards and been PI for grants from US Department of Energy and other funders. Her service is focused on mentoring and empowering the next generation of urbanists.

MIT B.Sc. in Architecture and Design '97 & MArch '01

#Architecture #ProductDesign #PropTech

Since graduating from MIT, Mr. Sean Kowk honed his craft practicing as an architect in the U.S., Hong Kong, and China. He has designed in a wide range of scales- from building components to urban developments, as well as different types, such as art installations, building interiors, luxury houses, schools, hotels, and a convention center.

As an architect, Mr. Kowk is trained to analyze problems logically, technically, critically, culturally, and creatively; to think in 5 dimensions - x, y, z, time and cost; to effectively communicates ideas verbally, literally, graphically and physically; and eventually discover innovative solutions to highly complex problems that are elegant, efficient, functional, user-centric and beautiful. He believes that Architecture’s holistic, non-linear design approach can have great relevance and broad application in other disciplines in today’s complex world.

Constance Bodurow

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Margaret Chan
Fellow of Hong Kong Institute of Planners (HKIP)
#TownPlanning
Ms. Margaret Chan is a town planning professional with strong interest and rich experience in formulating and taking forward place-making initiatives. She was involved in the planning work of the Energizing Kowloon East Office and is now pioneering the “Curating Smithfield” project with a group of young planners of HKIP. She is currently serving as the Chief Town Planner/Technical Services of the Planning Department.

Ms. Chan studied Geography and Management Studies at the University of Cambridge. She also holds a law degree and a master degree in urban planning. Recently, she obtained a Postgraduate Certificate in Art and Cultural Enterprise from UAL. She hopes to use an artistic place-making approach to make our city more liveable and loveable.

Rebecca Yu
Chief Manager of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), HKSAR Government
#ArtsAdministration #CommunityEngagement
Currently the Chief Manager (Performance Venues Management and Planning) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, Ms. Rebecca Yu oversees policy formulation and management in respect of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre and other seven performance venues in the New Territories. She is also responsible for the planning of new performance venues under the LCSD.

Amy Cheung
Head of the Energizing Kowloon East Office of the Development Bureau (EKEO), HKSAR Government
#UrbanPlanning #GovernmentPolicy
Ms. Amy Cheung is currently Head of the Energizing Kowloon East Office (EKEO), a multidisciplinary office set up under the Development Bureau of the Hong Kong SAR Government. EKEO is responsible for facilitating the transformation of the old industrial areas at Kowloon Bay and Kwan Tong together with the Kai Tak Development into a vibrant and attractive second core business district of Hong Kong. She is a town planner by profession and has a long working experience in the public sector.

Ms. Cheung’s experience covers strategic planning and major planning studies, including “Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030”, as well as planning and engineering studies for new development areas such as Kwai Tsing North/Fanling North, Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen and Yuen Long South.

Donald Choi
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#Architecture #UrbanDesign #Development
Mr. Donald Choi is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Chinachem Group. He was the Managing Director of Nan Fung Development and before Nan Fung, Director of Foster and Partners and the Authorized Person – Architect for the Hong Kong International Airport Passenger Terminal (HKIA Silver Medal Winner) and many infrastructure projects at Chek Lap Kok. He is a Global Trustee of the Urban Land Institute, President (2021 & 2022) of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, President (2020-2022) of the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design, Trustee of Rhode Island School of Design, Chief Curator for the Hong Kong Exhibition at the 17th Venice Architecture Biennale 2021, the Chairperson of the Board of Construction Innovation and Technology Application Centre, a Board Member of the Hong Kong Green Building Council, the Business Environment Council and CIOB CPD and Healthy City Design Conferences.

Kwok Cheung King
Chief Project Manager of Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), HKSAR Government
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Mr. Kwok Cheung King joined the Architectural Services Department, the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (ArchSD) in 1995. In his first 20 years of service, he was an in-house architect, involving in a wide range of public works projects, from institutional buildings, heritage conservation works to open space development. As Chief Project Manager in ArchSD, Mr. King is taking charge of a number of promenade enhancement works, green tourism projects in country parks and government complex developments.

In personal capacity, Mr. King is also Board of Director in Hong Kong Architecture Centre and was Committee Member in HKIA on Heritage & Conversation and Planning & Urban Design, giving advice on issues related to conservation and urban design, giving talks and publishing papers in UA, PHG Paris, Shanghai & Hong Kong Symposium on Science and Technology, Cross-Strait HK & Macao Symposium on Reuse of Architectural Heritage, HKIA Joint Seminar at Guangzhou, HKIA x AAM Joint Seminar, CIOB CPD and Healthy City Design Conferences.

Rosman Wai
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Dr. Rosman C.C. Wai is a lecturer in the Architectural Conservation Programme, Faculty of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong. She is a registered architect and has worked in the Hong Kong Housing Department for many years. She was the Vice-President of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects during 2015-16. She has published many articles on public housing, and has been interviewed by various newspapers, television and radio stations as well as given talks and lectures in many local and international conferences and universities. Her book, “Design DNA OF Mark I – Hong Kong’s Public Housing Prototype” has won the 10 Best Architectural Book of the year by the DAM (Deutsches Architekturmusem) Book Award 2020.
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