

Writings in Architectural Education

Research by Design

In 2000, EAAE together with Delft TU held a conference entitled "Research by Design". Needless to say, over the past ten years the theme has generated many challenging and interesting discussions both inside and outside academia, and few programs in architecture have not been influenced by this theme. Despite the many discussions, no one has been able to truly define what research by design is. In the more established research fields outside of the creative disciplines, research by design is neither directly overlooked nor openly accepted, but it has in a positive way opened up for new types of collaboration between design professions and other related fields. In addition it has also brought about a focus on the intuitive creative act itself and its validity within research in architecture.

Since 2000, Research by Design has taken many directions, initiated many questions and has been given many different names. Can studio teaching be seen as research, what about spatial experimentation in a scale of 1:1, or a concentration on a further understanding of a particular material and its structural capacity, is this research? These are just some of many questions that have caused debate. In each case where there was a lack of definition and in turn also a lack of precision, the programs broadened definitions in relation to architectural research.

The term research is about to lose some of its meaning and content, as the schools of architecture are often tempted to regard most material produced after the bachelor level as research in architecture. Perhaps this open and generous interpretation of research can be regarded as positive, but if this is the case the critical question and the theme for this competition, The EAAE Prize, Writing in Architectural Education is:

What has architectural education achieved during this past decade with regards to research by design? Which new experiences and insight has research by design generated, and what impact has the new content had in relation to architectural education?

BACKGROUND

This is the fifth time the EAAE has the pleasure of inviting teaching staff members to participate in the Competition for the EAAE Prize, Writings in Architectural Education. The 2011-2012 Prize is sponsored by MONTANA.

THE AIM

The aim of the EAAE Prize is to stimulate new pedagogical initiatives, and to communicate these initiatives as related to the broad scope of teaching and research.

The EAAE Prize is open to all teaching staff members, part-time or fulltime, of EAAE member schools of architecture as well as to all teachers from UIA-approved schools of architecture, provided they are individual members of EAAE. Teachers wishing to obtain individual membership should contact the EAAE secretariat at: aeaa@eaae.be.

THE TASK

The EAAE Prize calls for papers with the capacity to improve, challenge and enable a creative debate on architectural education related to the theme, Research by Design. Both theoretically and practically oriented papers are welcome.

SUBMISSION FORMAT

Submissions may take the form of reports or critical reviews dealing with conceptual or methodological developments that make a significant contribution to the theme of the competition.

Documents must be in English out of consideration for the jury's work.

Contributions should be sent electronically to the Organising Committee in PDF format only. The length should be limited to 33,000 characters, ie. about 6,000 words; illustrations must have a quality suited for electronic and paper publication. The identity of the author must not be revealed in the PDF file.

All material submitted must be original ie. neither published nor entered for publication at the time of entry. The Organising Committee will ensure that the contributions are sent to the jury anonymously. The material must have arrived at the Organising Committee no later than 7 December 2009.

TIME TABLE

The Competition is divided into two phases. In the first phase, the submissions will be evaluated anonymously by the jury and 10-15 papers will be selected. The authors of these papers will be invited to a workshop for discussion and criticism. Clearly, in the second phase the anonymity is broken, and the participants will know their competitors for the EAAE Prize.

The schedule for the competition is as follows:

12 February 2011	Council meeting in Bucharest Discussion and decision about the Prize theme
25 March 2011	Council meeting in Paris Theme, budget and appointing of jury
September 2011	Announcement of the EAAE Prize 2011-2012 Incl. web and poster
October 2011	Announcement in EAAE News Sheet/electronic
3 February 2012	Deadline for submissions
3 March 2012	Selection of 10-15 paper authors, and invitation to participate in workshop in Copenhagen
28-30 March 2012	International workshop in Copenhagen.
April-May 2012	Paper improvement
June 2012	Selection of winners by the jury
12 September 2012	Prize award ceremony in Hania
Nov-Dec 2012	Production of publication

THE JURY

The scientific jury will consist of:

Johannes Käferstein, Urs Hirschberg, Anne Elisabeth Toft, Per Olaf Fjeld, David Vanderberg and Johan Verbeke/
Jørgen Hauberg.

PRIZES

The total prize sum amounts to 10,000 Euros. The jury will distribute the prize sum with up to 6,000 Euros for the 1st prize, and between 3,000 and 1,000 Euros for the 2nd and 3rd prizes, respectively. The jury can decide to further divide the prize money or not to award certain prizes.

SUBMISSION CONDITIONS

By entering the EAAE Prize competition, the authors accept that the EAAE publishes and disseminates the awarded papers. Participants accept the terms of the prize regulations and refrain from any legal action by the sole act of participating. There will be no correspondence on the awarding process.

We aim to compile the awarded papers in a special EAAE publication. If the means can be obtained it will be distributed free of charge to all member schools. Each awarded author will receive five complimentary copies of the publication.

MONTANA is allowed to publish all awarded entries on their website. Non-awarded entries, for which the authors have conveyed their consent on the entry form, may be published as well.

PRE-REGISTRATION

In order for the work of the jury to be organised as efficiently as possible, please pre-register by submitting the information on the registration form by e-mail to the Organising Committee, c/o Ebbe Harder (ebbe.harder@karch.dk) or Pia Davidsen (pia.davidsen@karch.dk) ASAP.

Once you have been registered, you will receive all questions/answers regarding the competition directly by e-mail.

Please find the registration form on: www.eaae.be

P.S. Registration will be greatly appreciated but is no condition for participation.