VERITAS
design·group

MAY
2023

A VERITAS DESIGN GROUP PUBLICATION

Happy Labor Day and Greetings to all our Readers!

It is with the deepest sorrow that we announce the death of Anton Alers, VERITAS Australia Principal, on Wednesday May 17th 2023, after a short and sudden illness. We are all in shock and are still absorbing the loss of this extraordinary man, who touched the lives of so many around the world through his work as an architect and his warm and generous personality. In that regard, this month's E-news will be in tribute to Anton and some of the notable projects to which he contributed.

MAIN NEWS

- Cornelis Anton Richard Alers, 1958 – 2023
- Thomson Hospital
- Assunta Hospital
- Coppin Suites
- International Medical University (IMU) Hospital
- Kemaman Hospital

FEATURED

- Tatler Education Magazine - April Edition
- Tatler Malaysia; Standing Icons - May Edition
- The Star Property; Forging the Ties that Bind

GRAND | HYATT
KUALA LUMPUR

HAPPENING

- Resilient Design in Architecture Talk
- Assessing Local Building Culture and Context for Resilience webinar
- VERITAS Vietnam Country Manager visit to VERITAS Kuala Lumpur
- ECRL Groundbreaking Ceremony
- VERITAS Johor Raya Celebration
- Staff Quarterly Meeting
- VERITAS In-house Training on Contracts
- VERITAS Teh Tarik Talk (VTTT) Transit Planning
- University Malaya Faculty of Built Environment Open Day 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Birthday
- New Hires
- Quote

Also, it covers many other interesting happenings at VERITAS. We hope you enjoy this month's VERITAS E-news!

And please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to know more about any of the stories featured here.

MAIN NEWS

A VERITAS DESIGN GROUP PUBLICATION
May, 2023

Cornelis Anton Richard Alers

1958 - 2023

Anton Alers was born on June 24, 1958. He received a Master's Degree in Architecture from Melbourne University in 1991 and was a registered architect in Australia and the UK. He had working experience in Australia, the United Kingdom, Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam.

Architecture
is a living art
which has
the opportunity
of uplifting
our lives.

Anton was the founding director of VERITAS Architects Australia and had over 37 years of international architectural experience across a wide range of project types. With over a decade of experience in healthcare and aged care projects, Anton was leading the group's healthcare discipline. His project experience included healthcare master planning, healthcare design, hospitals and medical centers, aged care facilities and retirement villages. This architectural experience in a global context enabled Anton to effectively apply the latest international healthcare design practices to a local context and successfully work with Client groups from various backgrounds to establish a high degree of engagement with each project.

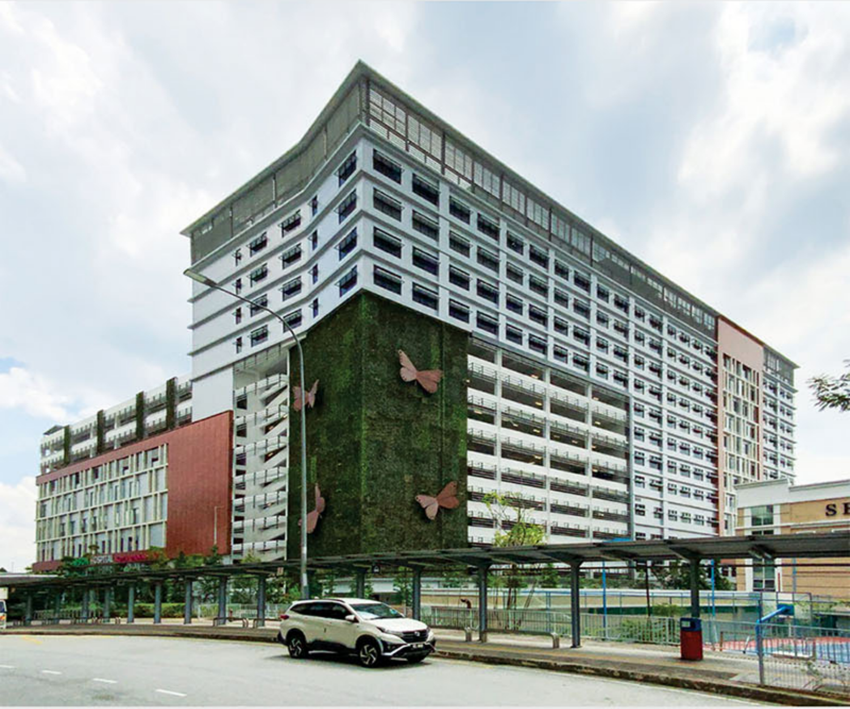
Anton maintained strong links with his alumni at Melbourne University and was a member of the International House Building Committee. He has lectured on topics in Asian Architecture at the University of Melbourne and presented papers on health care and sustainability at numerous forums.

Anton was also an active member of the Malaysia Australia Business Council (MABC) for many years and maintained a place on the Executive Committee in an ex-officio capacity.
Outside of architecture, Anton was first and foremost a family man who loved nothing more than being surrounded by his wife and children, to whom he devoted so much love and time. He also enjoyed diving and traveling. His youthful energy, love of life and mischievous humor will be hugely missed by all that knew him.

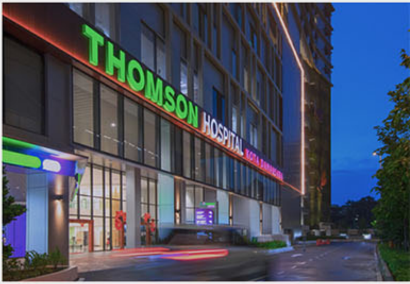
He is survived by his loving wife Christine, his children Alex and Tanya and his loyal canine companion, Zeus.

Thomson Hospital

Kota Damansara, Selangor



VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur collaborated with VERITAS Architects Australia under Anton's leadership to design the expansion of the existing Tropicana Medical Centre, to cater for the growth of the hospital and to provide a greater range of specialist services. The expansion programme accommodates four main components - specialist clinics, a retail outlet, hospital ward accommodation and car parking for both the retail and hospital.



> The new design significantly develops the existing clinical services, increases inpatient capacity and critical care facilities from 200 to 400 beds and doubles the number of operating theatres.

A contemporary rectilinear approach was adopted to create a landmark destination and to express the progressive values of the hospital. Efficient space planning has been applied to ensure a cost-effective design solution that also provides flexibility to cater to future medical services. The project was completed in 2021.

Assunta Hospital

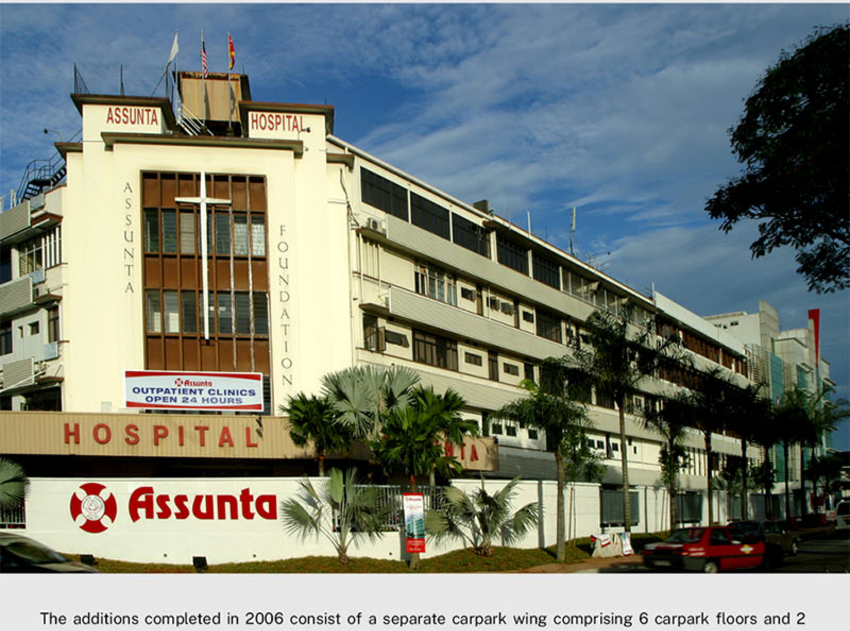
Petaling Jaya, Selangor

Assunta
ASSUNTA HOSPITAL
ASSUNTA FOUNDATION
OUTPATIENT CLINICS OPEN 24 HOURS

SPITAL
Assunta

Another iconic project led by Anton is the Assunta Hospital; a long-established medical institution located in the older part of the Petaling Jaya district.

This project comprises additions to the existing hospital building and the rehabilitation of the old structure.



The additions completed in 2006 consist of a separate carpark wing comprising 6 carpark floors and 2 service floors located along Jalan Assunta and a new 6-story medical wing with new specialist clinics, operating theatres and wards. The original Assunta Hospital was an iconic building designed in the Modernist style. The new wing retains these modernist qualities by keeping the lines of the building clean and minimal.

Coppin Suites

Melbourne, Australia

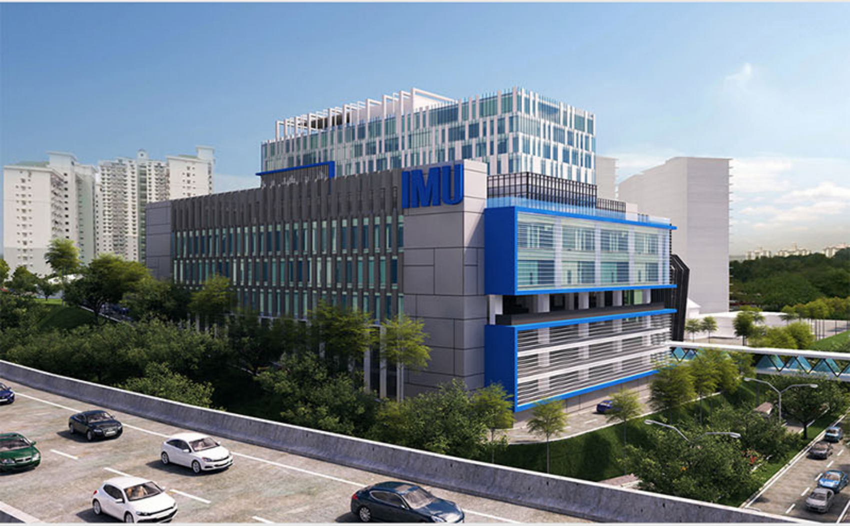
VERITAS Architects Australia with Anton as Principal, was commissioned by Royal Freemasons Victoria to act as the Client representative project manager for the Coppin Centre project.

Upon completion VERITAS Architects Australia in conjunction with Visionbuilt Solutions designed the Coppin Suites to retrofit the top floor to create 16 luxury residential care apartments.

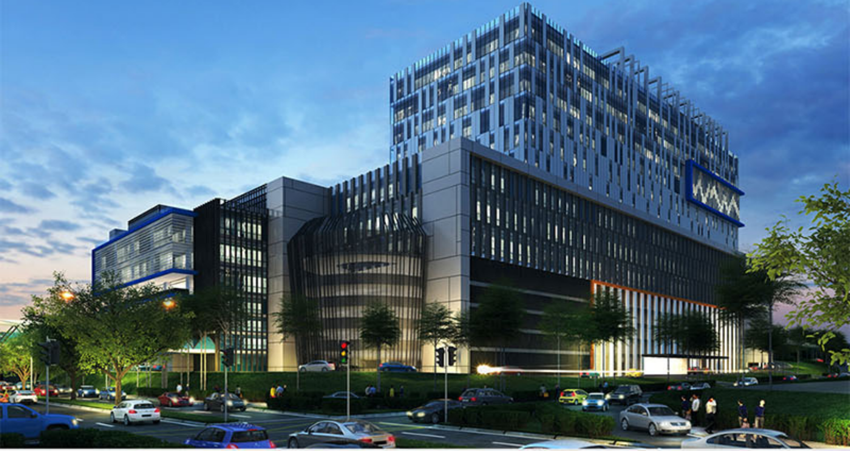
> This high-end facility creates a hybrid model of aged care where the residents enjoy a more spacious and comfortable living environment than traditional aged care environments.

International Medical University (IMU) Hospital

Kuala Lumpur



The IMU Hospital was conceived as an innovative and iconic facility to best support the IMU Teaching Campus. The proposed IMU Hospital was planned by Anton Alers of VERITAS Australia to support an emphasis on outpatient services and day procedures.

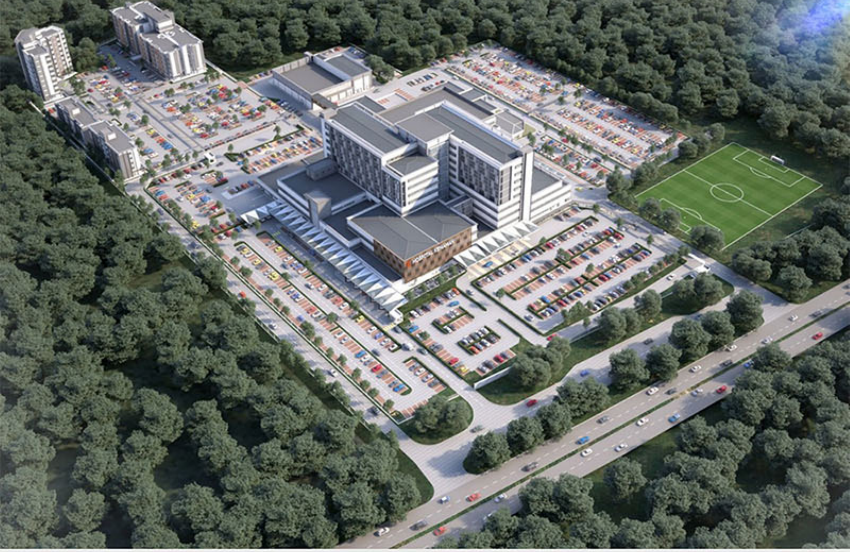


> The hospital is designed to express that functional planning and environmentally sustainable design principles are embedded in the concept.

The design was master-planned for staged development with departments expanded horizontally or decanted. The proposed design has been reconfigured to comprise 96 beds in stage 1 and another 190 beds in post-phase 1.

Kemaman Hospital

Kemaman, Terengganu



Another hospital with Anton's input is the new Kemaman Hospital which was planned to minimize the usage of the 20ha site to allow for future expansion flexibility. Only 8ha have been allocated for the proposed development which is able to accommodate the whole 300-bed hospital complex with staff accommodation quarters and hostel. As the site usage was minimized, the building program required 9 levels of vertical arrangement whereby 4 levels of Hospital podium and 5 levels of wards to accommodate all the facilities.

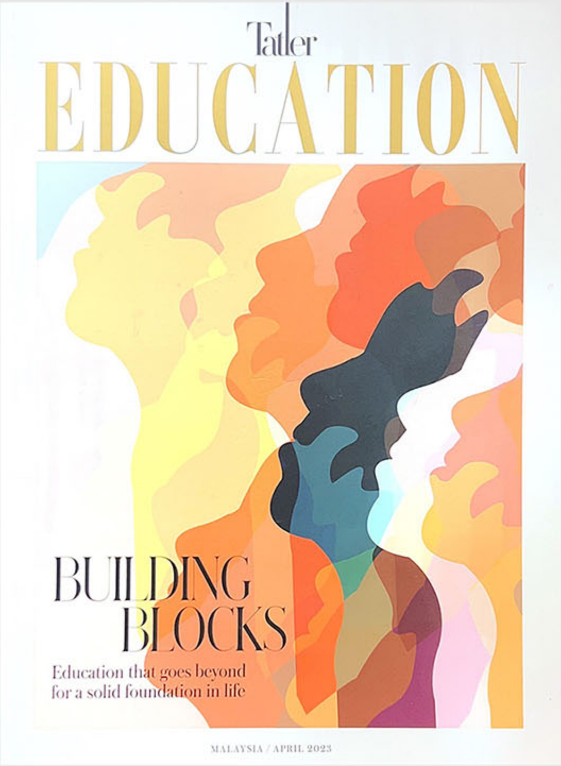
HOSPITAL KEMAMAN

> The primary design goal was to enhance the hospital experience through the maximization of daylight for greater patient and visitor satisfaction, as well as improved inpatient conditions by creating a sense of healing environment in the internal courtyard atrium.

Tatler Education Magazine

April Edition

Two of VERITAS' projects; Marlborough College and the International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL), were featured in Tatler Education Magazine April edition.



Tatler

EDUCATION

BUILDING BLOCKS

Education that goes beyond for a solid foundation in life

MALAYSIA / APRIL 2023

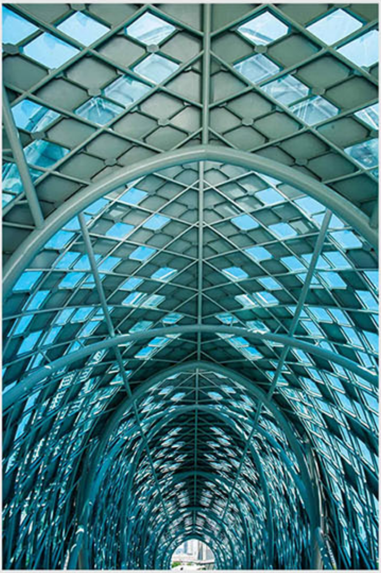
Marlborough College Malaysia is the Malaysian campus of the long-established private school in Wiltshire, United Kingdom. The program for the project combines a broad range of arts and sports facilities interwoven into the architectural fabric of the sprawling campus. The landscape focuses on the development of a lush 'campus-style' parkland that connects the interior and exterior spaces.

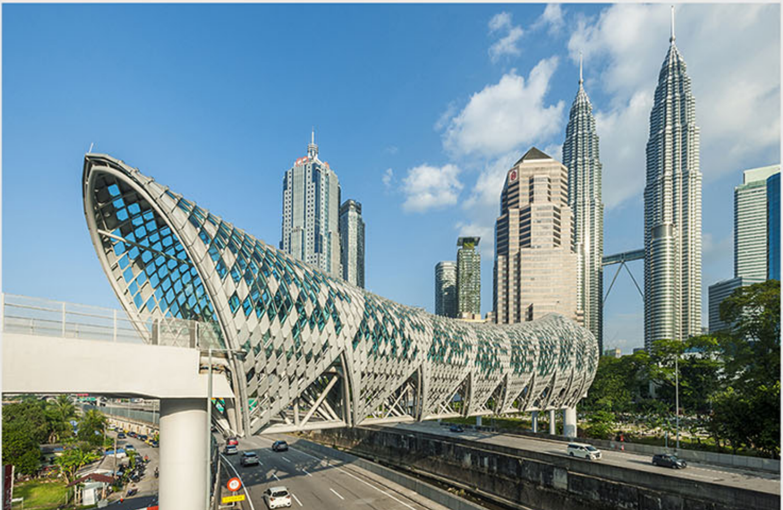
Located on an 11.8ha site in Ampang Hilir, the new campus for the International School of Kuala Lumpur was an opportunity to bring all three parts of ISKL (elementary, middle and high school) back together again in one location in a new space fully appropriate to the school's unique identity. The school is also a sustainability exemplar for the region and the world, having obtained a GBI Platinum rating of 90 points, making it the "greenest" school in Malaysia.

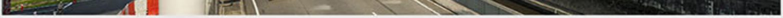
Tatler Malaysia; Standing Icons

May Edition

VERITAS Principal Syah Kamaruddin was featured in Tatler Malaysia May edition; Standing Icons. The magazine featured three leading Malaysian architects each sharing the most iconic buildings from their respective portfolios while explaining what makes their own projects so special. Syah expressed his opinion on why the Pintasan Saloma was one of the most iconic buildings in Kuala Lumpur.







The Star Property

Forging the Ties that Bind

On 26th May, an article by VERITAS Principal, Alif Arif was published in The Star Property special feature section.

Alif shared his views on family-oriented houses and their latest trends. Family-friendly properties are becoming an essential aspect of modern architecture, especially in Malaysia, where family values are deeply ingrained.

With more families opting to live together, architects are designing houses that cater to sustainable multi-generational living, open-plan living and flexible spaces.

72 SPECIAL FEATURE
FRIDAY 26 MAY 2023

StarProperty AWARDS 2023

Forging the ties that bind

Family-oriented houses and their latest trend

Kitchen Planning

Storage spaces

Second living spaces and playroom

Practical entrances

Practical facilities

Sustainable living

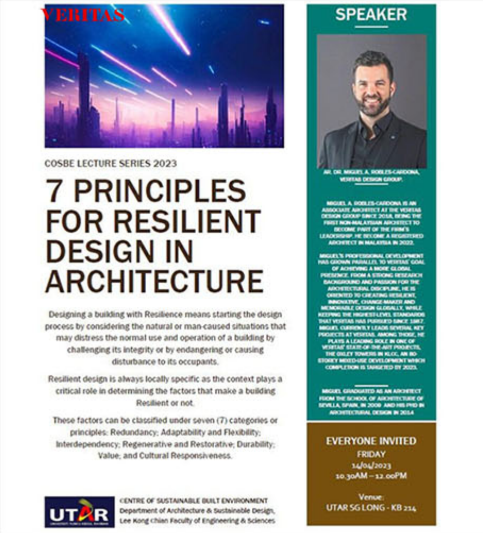
Design with the future in mind

SPECIAL FEATURE 73
FRIDAY 26 MAY 2023

Resilient Design in Architecture Talk

On 14th April, **VERITAS Associate Miguel Robles** presented a talk at University Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) entitled "*7 Principles for Resilient Design in Architecture*".

The one-and-a-half-hour hybrid session provided new knowledge and valuable insights to the 40+ students that were present online and physically.



COSBE LECTURE SERIES 2023

7 PRINCIPLES FOR RESILIENT DESIGN IN ARCHITECTURE

Designing a building with Resilience means starting the design process by considering the natural or man-caused situations that may distress the normal use and operation of a building by challenging its integrity or by endangering or causing disturbance to its occupants.

Resilient design is always locally specific as the context plays a critical role in determining the factors that make a building Resilient or not.

These factors can be classified under seven (7) categories or principles: Redundancy; Adaptability and Flexibility; Interdependency; Regenerative and Restorative; Durability; Value; and Cultural Responsiveness.

CENTRE OF SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
Department of Architecture & Sustainable Design,
Lee Kong chian Faculty of Engineering & Sciences

SPEAKER

AR. DR. MIGUEL A. ROBLES-CARDONA,
VERITAS DESIGN GROUP.

MIGUEL A. ROBLES-CARDONA IS AN ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT AT THE VERITAS DESIGN GROUP SINCE 2018, BEING THE FIRST NON-MALAYSIAN ARCHITECT TO BECOME PART OF THE FIRM'S LEADERSHIP. HE BECOME A REGISTERED ARCHITECT IN MALAYSIA IN 2022.

MIGUEL'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HAS GROWN PARALLEL TO VERITAS' GOAL OF ACHIEVING A MORE GLOBAL PRESENCE. FROM A STRONG RESEARCH BACKGROUND AND PASSION FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL DISCIPLINE, HE IS ORIENTED TO CREATING RESILIENT, INNOVATIVE, CHANGE-MAKER AND MEMORABLE DESIGN GLOBALLY, WHILE KEEPING THE HIGHEST-LEVEL STANDARDS THAT VERITAS HAS PURSUED SINCE 1967. MIGUEL CURRENTLY LEADS SEVERAL KEY PROJECTS AT VERITAS. AMONG THOSE, HE PLAYS A LEADING ROLE IN ONE OF VERITAS' STATE-OF-THE-ART PROJECTS, THE OXLEY TOWERS IN KLCC, AN 80-STOREY MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT WHICH COMPLETION IS TARGETED BY 2023.

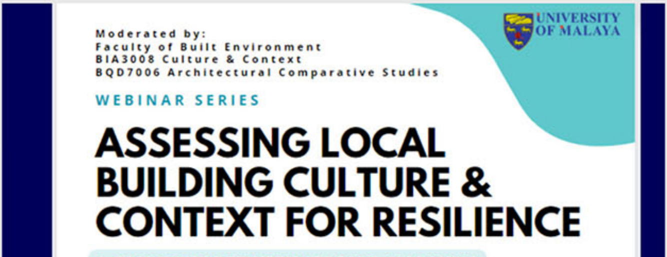
MIGUEL GRADUATED AS AN ARCHITECT FROM THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE OF SEVILLA, SPAIN, IN 2008 AND HIS PHD IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN IN 2014

EVERYONE INVITED
FRIDAY
14/04/2023
10.30AM – 12.00PM

Venue:
UTAR SG LONG - KB 214

Assessing Local Building Culture and Context for Resilience webinar

On 2nd May, **VERITAS Principal Fazleyna Rashid** was one of the panelists at Universiti Malaya's Dialogue between Malaysia and Japan on assessing local building culture and context for resilience. The webinar was attended by Year 3 and Year 4 (Part 1 & Part 2) architecture students of University Malaya.

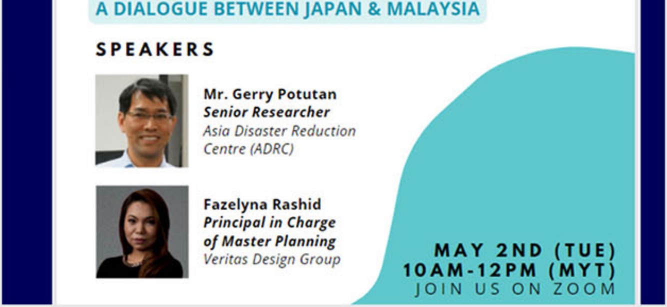


Moderated by:
Faculty of Built Environment
BIA3008 Culture & Context
BQD7006 Architectural Comparative Studies

UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

WEBINAR SERIES

ASSESSING LOCAL BUILDING CULTURE & CONTEXT FOR RESILIENCE



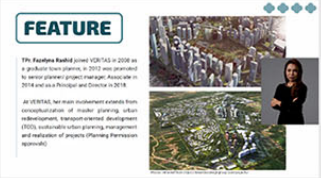
A DIALOGUE BETWEEN JAPAN & MALAYSIA

SPEAKERS

Mr. Gerry Potutan
Senior Researcher
Asia Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC)

Fazelyna Rashid
Principal in Charge of Master Planning
Veritas Design Group

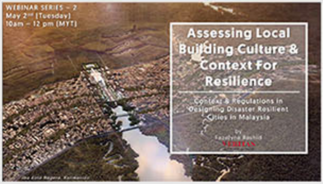
MAY 2ND (TUE)
10AM-12PM (MYT)
JOIN US ON ZOOM



FEATURE

TPr. Fazelyna Rashid joined VERITAS in 2006 as a graduate town planner, in 2012 was promoted to senior planner/ project manager, Associate in 2014 and as a Principal and Director in 2018.

At VERITAS, her main involvement extends from conceptualization of master planning, urban redevelopment, transport-oriented development (TOD), sustainable urban planning, management and realization of projects (Planning Permission approvals)

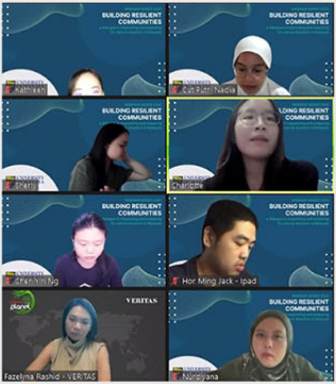


WEBINAR SERIES – 2
May 2nd (Tuesday)
10am – 12 pm (MYT)

Assessing Local Building Culture & Context For Resilience

Context & Regulations in Designing Disaster Resilient Cities in Malaysia

by
Fazelyna Rashid
VERITAS

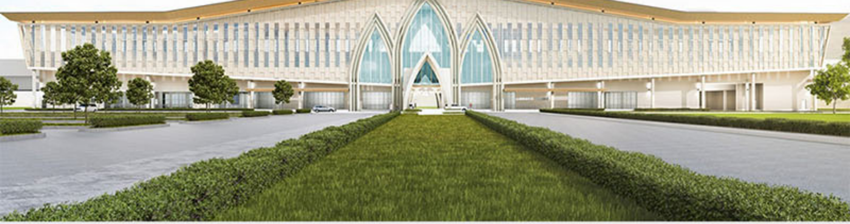


VERITAS Vietnam Country Manager visit to VERITAS Kuala Lumpur

On 2nd May, **VERITAS Vietnam Country Manager, Ken Chau** paid a visit to VERITAS Architects Kuala Lumpur (VAKL). Ken, the recently appointed interim country representative for VERITAS attended a two-day marketing and business development discussion at VAKL.

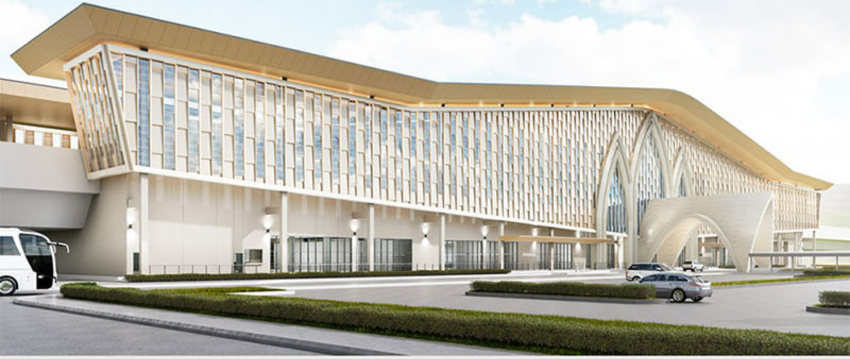
ECRL Groundbreaking Ceremony

On 12th May, the groundbreaking ceremony for the first station of the East Coast Rail Line (ECRL) station in Kota Bharu was officiated by **Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim**. The ECRL Kota Bharu Station is the capital station for Kelantan and serves as the starting point for the passenger service of the ECRL.



MALAYSIA RAIL LINK
ECRL
East Coast Rail Link
中国交建
CHINA COMMUNICATIONS CONSTRUCTION
مجليس ڤلنچرن

The station design embraces the influence of traditional Kelantanese architecture with its Islamic-themed arches and details.



The station façade arrangement reinterprets the "*Janda Berhias*" arrangement to allow adequate cross ventilation, daylight and weather protection. The project is led by **Principal Ng Yiek Seng** and **Associate Wong Ka Yee.**

VERITAS Johor Raya Celebration

On 12th May, VERITAS Johor Sports & Social Club (VJSSC) organized a Jamuan Hari Raya for all VERITAS Johor and VERITAS Landscape Johor staff at the Thistle Hotel, Johor Bahru. Everyone had a fun-filled evening to remember and cherish accompanied by a delectable buffet spread of Malay dishes.

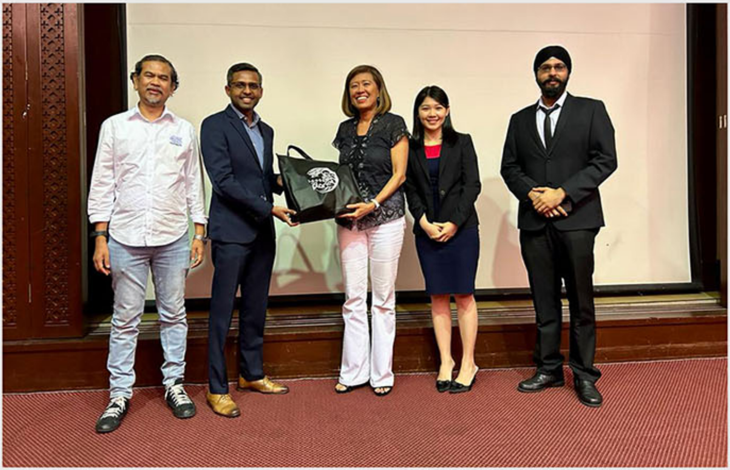
Staff Quarterly Meeting

design group
2ND STAFF QUARTE
MEETING
SATURDAY 13 MAY 2023
LEMBAGA GETAH MALAYSIA

On 13th May, VERITAS held its second staff quarterly meeting of 2023 with **Harun Rahman from RIMAU Malaysia** as the external guest speaker. Founded in 2018, RIMAU is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the critically endangered Malayan Tiger through its anti-poaching activities and stakeholder engagement. **VERITAS President David Hashim, Vice President Lillian Tay** and the **VERITAS Fund for Excellence (VFE)** pledged a total of RM15,000.00 for the cause.

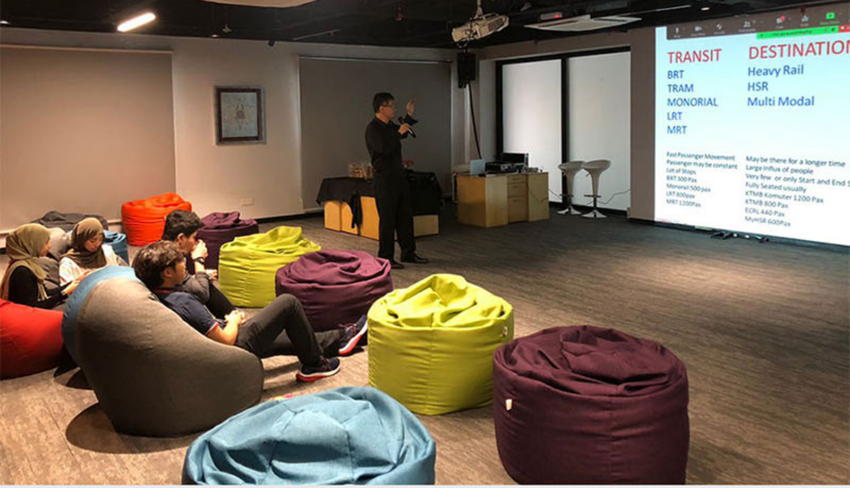
The meeting also updated on all active VERITAS projects. In the spirit of the Syawal month, VERITASians were encouraged to don Raya-themed attire. The meeting adjourned with the announcement of best-dressed individuals and servings of Raya-themed cuisine.

VERITAS In-house Training on Contracts



On 13th May, after the second staff quarterly meeting, VERITAS held an in-house training on Construction Contracts with **Mr. Rohan Arasoo** from the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AIADR). Attendance was compulsory for all architects and quantity surveyors. The session was truly informative and provided valuable knowledge on contract law to all participants.

VERITAS Teh Tarik Talk (VTTT) Transit Planning



On 18th May, the VTTT was held with **VERITAS Principal, Ng Yiek Seng** as the speaker. The topic for the talk was Transit Planning. Ng delivered an insightful talk that provided all attendees with valuable insight of future trends in environmentally sustainable public mass transportation solutions.

University Malaya Faculty of Built Environment Open Day 2023

On 20th May, **VERITAS Vice President Lillian Tay** presented a talk at University Malaya (UM) Faculty of Built Environment Open Day 2023. Lillian's talk covered topics regarding the potential and larger contributions of architects to the community and the global sustainability agenda. The talk was attended by graduating students of UM.

ANNOUNCEMENT

A VERITAS DESIGN GROUP PUBLICATION
May, 2023

Who's Celebrating their Birthday - May

VERITAS Architects Sdn. Bhd. (Kuala Lumpur)

- 2nd Zaffrul bin Shahriman
- 4th Ahmad Afandi bin Alang
- 6th Said Noridi Said Mohamed
- 13th Didi Shafira binti Hanif
- 14th Ee Zi-An
- 15th Pinky Tan Jun Inn
- 16th Noor Azlina binti Mohd Ismail
- 18th Zaimi bin Kamdan
- 18th Ng Jia Han
- 21st Muhammad Zulhilmi bin Md Ali
- 21st Mohd Razif bin Abd Rahman
- 22nd Viknasparan A/L Govinthansamy
- 25th Sharifah Nur Amiera bte Syed Muhammad
- 25th Arumugam A/L Ellappan
- 27th Azril Amir bin Jaafar
- 28th Amiruddin bin Osman
- 28th Chu Jia Jun
- 30th Mohd Saifuddin Mat Said
- 31st David Mizan Hashim
- 31st Adrinfahd bin Adnan

VERITAS Architects Sdn. Bhd. (Penang)

- 18th Eric Tham
- 29th Mohd Roslan Abd Hamid

VERITAS Interiors Sdn. Bhd.

- 14th Bianca June Purkis
- 26th Regina Thangam

VERITAS Landscape Sdn. Bhd.

- 5th Shuzana Shaari
- 7th Nur Izzati Husna Azmeer Noor

i·d·e·a·s for the planet

New Hires

VERITAS Architects Sdn. Bhd. (Kuala Lumpur)

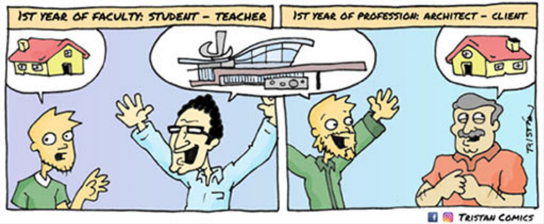
Muhammad Zubair
Architect

Nur Fatihah Hashim
Receptionist & Assistance Admin

Wan Nor Amirul Hakim
Assistant Architect

Tan Jia Ming
Assistant Architect

Fhellagia Ferraldisha
HR Executive


1ST YEAR OF FACULTY: STUDENT – TEACHER
1ST YEAR OF PROFESSION: ARCHITECT – CLIENT
TRISTAN
TRISTAN COMICS

ZAHA HADID

"Architecture is like writing. You have to edit it over and over, so it looks effortless."