

Inter Cultural Studies of Architecture (ICSA) in Japan 2013

Based on the general exchange agreement between Mukogawa Women's University (MWU) and Bahçeşehir University (BAU), students and professors from BAU's Faculty of Architecture and Design joined us at Koshien Hall and the Architecture Studio on MWU's Kami-Koshien Campus from June 25 to July 31, 2013.

BAU's students tackled third- and fourth-year MWU student design projects. By participating in this program, they gained knowledge, learned techniques, and increased their awareness of architectural design. They also joined basic design studios of first-year MWU students and had the opportunity to experience traditional Japanese culture, such as Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement under Ryuho Sasaoka, headmaster of the Ikebana Misho-ryu Sasaoka in Kyoto) and woodwork (with Sadahide Kanda, a master carpenter in Hyogo). They also participated in fieldwork on Saturdays, exploring the cities and architecture of Japan, such as Omihachiman, the Itsukushima Shrine.

Participants

Professors: Associate Professor Murat Dündar, Research Assistant Sinem Kültür

Students: Nihan Metiner, Nergis Taşkent, Özge Keleş, Sunay Altuntepe, Fahriye Gürsoy, Çiğdem Çavuşoğlu, Müge Kahraman, Nur Bostancı, Ezgi Çiçek, and İmge Bilek

1. Greetings

1.1. Welcome Party: June 27

Ten students and one teacher from Bahçeşehir University were greeted by the students and teachers of Mukogawa Women's University. Prof. Dr. Shigeyuki Okazaki (Chair, Department of Architecture, MWU) and Assist. Prof. Dr. Murat Dündar (Vice-Dean, Faculty of Architecture and Design, BAU) spoke and the BAU students and teacher introduced themselves. Following this, MWU undergraduate students gave a speech in English, and MWU graduate students gave a welcome speech in Turkish.



Prof. Okazaki greeting the BAU group in Turkish.



Assist. Prof. Dean Murat speaking in Japanese.



BAU students introducing themselves in Japanese.



MWU undergraduate students greeting the participants from BAU in English.



MWU graduate students greeting the BAU participants in Turkish.



MWU graduate students giving BAU students "Teru teru bozus."

1.2. Courtesy Call on Chancellor Ryo Okawara and President Naosuke Itoigawa of MWU: July 2

The BAU students and their teacher visited MWU's Central Campus and paid a courtesy call on MWU's Chancellor Ryo Okawara and President Naosuke Itoigawa. They expressed their delight at visiting to Japan. Chancellor Okawara encouraged them to enjoy themselves and to study hard.



Meeting with Chancellor Ryo Okawara and President Naosuke Itoigawa.



Commemorative photo.

2. Design Classes

2.1. Architectural Design Studio III: Rebuilding Hanshin Koshien Station with a Membrane-Structured Roof: June 28 to July 27

Three of the BAU students tackled the same project as MWU's third-year students in their studio. They addressed how to safely move a large number of passengers and how to make membrane roofing for the platforms. The students visited Hanshin Koshien Station after a baseball game. They then created membrane roof models, drew perspectives, and planned layouts, elevations, and sections. They also received advice from teachers and Akihiro Noguchi, a membrane expert from Taiyo Kogyo Corp., and used this advice to improve their initial ideas. Lastly, they made their final submissions and presented them to the final-jury.



A teacher explaining to the BAU students how to create tensional forces on a membrane.



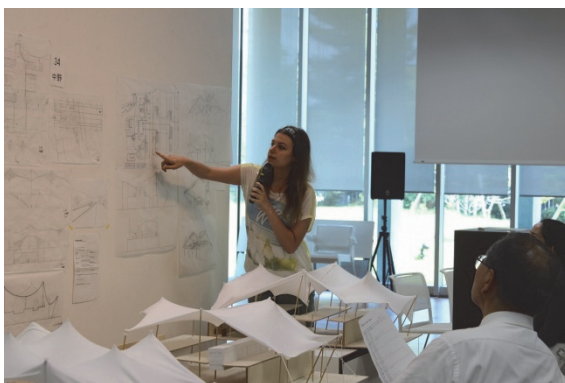
Conversing with a teacher.



Studying before the inter-jury.



Studying before the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Studying a membrane-structured roof.



Conversing with teachers.



Nur's presentation at the final-jury.



Dr. Mamoru Kawaguchi, Honorary Professor at Hosei University, commenting during the final-jury presentations.



İmge's presentation at the final-jury



Architect Nobuaki Furuya, Professor at Waseda University, commenting during the final-jury presentations.



Ezgi's presentation at the final-jury



A BAU student commenting on a presentation by an MWU student.

2.2. Architectural Design Studio V: Paradise along Waterfront : June 27 to July 29

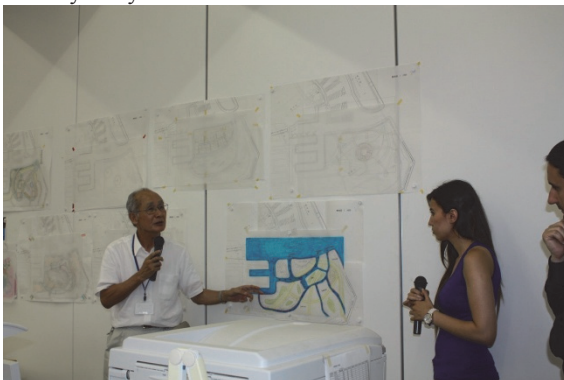
The remaining seven BAU students tackled the same project as MWU's fourth-year students in their studio, specifically, to design a pleasant urban space for the Shioashiya Area, which is reclaimed ground in Ashiya City. They made models, drew perspectives, and planned layouts, elevations, and sections. They also received advice from teachers, which they used to improve their initial ideas. Lastly, they made their final submissions and presented them to the final-jury.



Visiting the Shioashiya Area, which is reclaimed ground in Ashiya City.



Conversing with a teacher.



Conversing with a teacher.



Conversing with a teacher.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Presenting to the inter-jury.



Commenting during the inter-jury presentations.



Nihan's presentation at the final-jury.



Sunay's presentation at the final-jury.



Müge's presentation at the final-jury.



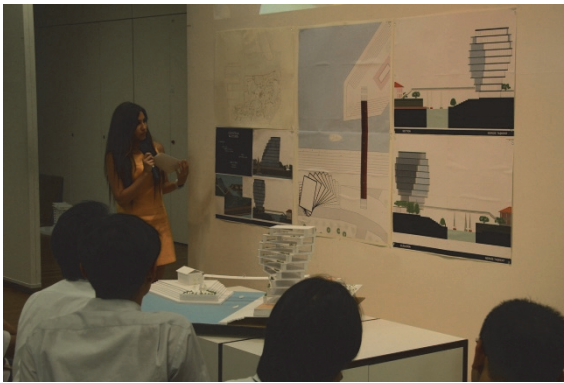
Özge's presentation at the final-jury.



Fahriye's presentation at the final-jury.



Dr. Teruyuki Monnai, Professor at Kyoto University, participating in the final-jury.



Nergis's presentation at the final-jury.



Çiğdem's presentation at the final-jury.

2.3. Basic Design Studio

To deepen their understanding of Japanese culture, the BAU students studied Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement) and woodwork with the first-year MWU students.

2.3.1. Ikebana: June 27 and July 9

On June 27, the students experienced Ikebana under Headmaster Ryuho Sasaoka (Ikebana Misho-ryu Sasaoka, part-time MWU lecturer). On July 9, they collaborated with MWU students, making and presenting large-size Ikebana arrangements.



Headmaster Ryuho Sasaoka instructing the BAU students in Ikebana



An Ikebana lesson.



Large-size Ikebana arrangement lesson.



Large-size Ikebana arrangement lesson.

2.3.2. Woodwork: July 11 and 16

The students used a plane and woodworked under Master Carpenter Sadahide Kanda, a part-time MWU lecturer, increasing their understanding of traditional Japanese carpentry techniques.



Master Carpenter Sadahide Kanda instructing the BAU students in using a plane.



BAU students woodworking.

3. Fieldwork

3.1. Architecture of Membrane Structure and Ichijo-ji Temple: June 29

Before designing a train station with a membrane structure, the Turkish students and MWU third-year students listened to a lecture by Akihiro Noguchi (engineer at Taiyo Kogyo Corp.) on the history of membrane structures, and their materials, mechanical properties, construction techniques, and examples. They next visited the Rest House on Okura Beach in Akashi City to see an example of a suspended membrane structure. They then moved on to Ichijo-ji Temple in Kasai City. The pagoda, completed in 1171, is a Japanese National Treasure constructed in the Wayo architectural style (Japanese style).



Visiting the Rest House on Okura Beach in Akashi City.



Visiting Ichijo-ji Temple in Kasai City.

3.2. Suzaku-no-niwa and Suikeien Garden in Kyoto: June 29

The students visited Umekoji Park with fourth-year MWU students and saw the Suzaku-no-niwa Garden, which was constructed in the Japanese chisen-kaiyu-shiki garden style. After that, they moved on to Keihanna Commemorative Park and saw the Suikeien Garden, which was built using traditional Kyoto techniques.



Visiting Suzaku-no-niwa Garden in Umekoji Park.



Sketching in Suikeien Garden.

3.3. Iba and Omihachiman in Shiga: July 6

The ten BAU students visited Iba to see the Iba-naiko (lagoon) and settlement with canals. They then moved on to Omihachiman, and saw the Hachiman-bori area, which has been preserved as a national important preservation district for the area's historic buildings and canals.



Visiting the Hachiman-bori area in Omihachiman.



Sketching in the Hachiman-bori area.

3.4. Itsukushima Shrine and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima: July 13

The students visited Miyajima Island, one of Japan's three most famous scenic places, with the fourth-year MWU students. After arriving by ferry, they walked to the Itsukushima Shrine along a beachfront road, visited many buildings within the shrine, and viewed the mountain range over the O-torii (the Grand Gate). After that, they visited Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.



Visiting the Itsukushima Shrine.



Posing for a photo at the Itsukushima Shrine.



Visiting Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.



Visiting Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

4. Farewell Party: July 31

Before the BAU students returned to Turkey, we gave them a farewell party. The third- and fourth-year MWU students, who had spent a month studying in the same studio with the BAU students gave them presents, followed by a BAU student, acting as a representative for all the BAU students, thanking the MWU students.



MWU students giving presents to the BAU students.



A student thanking the MWU students on behalf of the BAU students.

(Reported by Toshitomo Suzuki)