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Art and Creative Placemaking in Singapore

Creative placemaking is a process where different sectors of society (state, arts organisation and community) collaborate in cultural activities that deepen their relations with each other and also the place in which they operate and live in. As a panacea to the woes of poorly planned spaces and apathetic people, it is supposed to address social exclusion and generate feelings of belonging even as the environment is artfully and culturally enhanced. Adopting a creative placemaking framework, this presentation considers the phenomenon of Void Deck Galleries (VDG) in Singapore. With more spaces in public housing environments given over to art in Singapore, it explores the relationships between the state, an arts organisations and local communities that have formed around the VDGs, along with the missed opportunities and looming challenges in urban placemaking. Data from three void decks reveal a pro-active stance by the state, the coordinating function of the arts organisation, and the enthusiastic although largely passive role that local communities bring to bear on the painted walls of Singapore.



Biography

T.C. Chang is an Associate Professor in Geography at the National University of Singapore. His research interests include urban development issues, arts and culture, and Asian tourism. He is the co-editor of two books on Asian tourism namely, *Asia on Tour. Exploring the Rise of Asian Tourism* (2009; Routledge) and *Interconnected Worlds: Tourism in Southeast Asia* (2001; Pergamon). He was also Assistant and subsequently Vice Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in charge of External Relations and Student Life (2008-2015). In 2016, he is currently on sabbatical where he was a visiting associate at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Surrey University (UK).

2. Professor Datuk Dr. Sufean Hussin , Ph.D (Oregon, USA), Master Education., B.Sc & Ed.(Hons)

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Professor Datuk Dr Sufean Hussin is a senior special grade professor and has served the University of Malaya for more than 32 years.

Achievements:

1. He is one of the distinguished scholars in the field of education in the world and in Malaysia, specializing and researching in the areas of university governance and management, educational leadership, and education policy.
2. He has been honoured as "Top 2000 Education Intellectuals of the 21st Century" by the International Biography Centre (IBC Cambridge) and listed in the biography annal "Who Is Who in the World" (New York 2011, 2012).
3. He has been a research consultant to Ministry of Education on several occasions and also to several corporations and associations. His most notable consultancy work was with the MoE, 2012-2014, with a grant of RM6.9 million, doing a major research project on teacher employment and services policy.
4. He has written more than twenty books, among the notable ones are:
 - Pendidikan di Malaysia (1996);
 - Dasar Modal Insan: Dasar 60:40 Dalam Sains & Teknologi
 - Demokrasi Pendidikan: Dilema Sekolah Kecil dan Sekolah Berpusat (2013);
 - University Governance: Trends and Models (2012);
 - Memacu Puncak Ilmu: Autonomi Universiti Merencana Pembangunan (2008).
5. He has supervised research works and theses of more than 120 masters students and 12 PhD students.
6. He is listed as one of the United Nation's experts in field of education and social science, 2013-2015.
7. For his excellent service, he was awarded the Datukship medal by the Malacca Governor in September 2013, and awarded the Excellent Service award by the University of Malaya for three times.

3. Mohamed Sarrab, Ph.D

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Human Behavior Consideration in Mobile Learning Development and Adoption

The growth of (smart) mobile devices usage, increased acceptance of E-learning, the availability of high reliability mobile networks and need for flexibility in learning have resulted in the growth of mobile learning (M-learning). This has led to a tremendous interest in the acceptance behaviors related to M-learning users among the information systems researchers. The last decade has seen emergence of a new economy called Knowledge Economy, a fusion of globalization and Information and Communication Technology (ICT). M-learning provides a new learning channel in which learners can access content and just in time information as required irrespective of the time and location. Even though M-learning is fast evolving in many different societies, research addressing the driving factors of M-learning development and adoption is in short supply.

Educationally advanced countries such as South Korea, USA, Japan, Singapore, European Union and Australia are using mobile devices in the educational sectors. These countries have been found promoting M-Learning as a matter of national policies. They have accommodated E-Learning and M-Learning in their traditional learning systems. However most of the other countries are still out of race and facing number of challenges in M-Learning adoption.

This talk focuses on the driving factors as human behavior consideration in mobile learning development and adoption and the society perceptions and willingness towards M-learning. Some factors of perceived innovative characteristics, such as ease of use, usefulness, enjoyment, suitability, social, and economic were found to have more influence on development and adoption of M-learning which help to facilitate and promote future research. Empirically, I draw on results from research project that investigate the development, adoption, and dissemination of M-learning. The aim of this speech is to provide such insights based on empirical study and to raise adequate inquiries for debate and research.

Biography

Dr. Mohamed Sarrab is currently working as a researcher at CIRC (Communication and Information Research Center), Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. He obtained Ph.D. degree in computer science from De Montfort University, UK. M.Sc. degree in computer science and information technology from VSB technical university of Ostrava, Czech Republic and B.Sc. degree in computer science from Al Zawia University, Libya.

His research interests are in areas of Computer Security, Software Engineering, E-learning, Mobile learning (M-learning) and Mobile Cloud Computing. He is also interesting in mobile application security, in particular Access Control and Policy-Based System Management, Runtime Verification and Information Flow Control, viz. Software Systems where security requirements are managed using loosely coupled components that enforce high-level security requirements. He believed that any such system must be based on a sound and formal footing to provide the level of assurance needed in critical applications, whilst remaining practical and usable.