

CHAA NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2006

INTRODUCTION

Happy New Year and welcome to the first CHAA Newsletter for 2006. As in 2005, this newsletter is one of a continuing series intended to disseminate useful sources of information to our sponsors and CHAA.net members.

This regular Newsletter is intended to update our sponsors and key stakeholders regarding key CHAA research, events, and achievements. Thanks once again to all our sponsors from the Health Capital Asset Managers' Consortium (HCAMC) jurisdictions for their ongoing support and feedback. Thank you also to our UNSW sponsors, especially those in the Faculty of the Built Environment (FBE).

Each newsletter includes a monthly Centre update including a brief list of emerging issues and a list of useful resources (usually electronic and almost always free of charge to use).

Just prior too this Newsletter we have released a comprehensive set of electronic bookmark references (website links) which are located on the CHAA website. As noted in last month's newsletter, our **website** is located at: www.chaa.net.au This takes you directly to our home page and from there to other resources available for participants in our seminars and conferences, other e-resources (including the bookmarks set) and Newsletters, etc. If you have not already done so, please update your bookmarks with our homepage.

We welcome comment on Newsletter **content matters**, via email to Steven Tipper, CHAA Research Fellow & Newsletter Editor s.tipper@unsw.edu.au or for CHAA.net membership, Newsletter distribution, visiting the Centre, etc i.e. **administrative matters** please contact Miriam Burgess, Administrative Coordinator, email CHAA.Admin@unsw.edu.au.

Please also come and visit us in our new premises in the Red Centre Building on the UNSW campus (Level 1, West Wing). For a map showing how to find us and comprehensive directions, see www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/chaa/contact.asp

CENTRE UPDATE

CHAA Personnel

Please stand by for announcements re new staff appointments to the Centre (February Newsletter).

- **Professor Franklin Becker**

From February 12 – 15 March we welcome a Visiting Fellow to the Centre – Professor Franklin Becker from Cornell University. Professor Becker is spending some of his sabbatical leave with us. An environment psychologist by training, his particular interest is workplace design in response to changing workforce demographics and composition, with a particular interest in healthcare facility design. He is currently Professor and Chair of the Department Design & Environmental Analysis, Co-Director, Design Concepts Laboratory, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. For further information please visit <http://iwsp.human.cornell.edu>.

We are planning various seminars and workshops with Professor Becker, including one with the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in Sydney in early March. We look forward to his input to our research programs and in assisting us in raising the profile of our work in both the academic community and with industry.

Emerging Issues Update

- **Health Facility Guidelines:**

An additional set of Health Planning Units (HPU) have now been reviewed and will be published on the HFG website <http://www.healthdesign.com.au/nsw.hfg/>; these will be released for industry review and use following final approval by NSW Health. We will email Chaa.net members as soon

as this occurs. NSW Health and the staff at CHAA would like to convey their sincere thanks to all those members of the industry who gave their valuable time to review the drafts. Your comments were thoughtful, often very comprehensive and we have incorporated almost all of them into the final draft either directly or via an editorial process.

- **RAIA/CHAA Survey of Healthcare Facility Designers**

In collaboration with the RAIA, CHAA recently undertook a **survey of healthcare facility designers** that was sent to all RAIA and NZ Institute of Architects members, and forwarded to all architects, project directors and health facility planners on the CHAA.net mailing list. The intent of the survey is to understand more about the designers who work on healthcare projects and in particular the kind of information resources that they use or would like to see developed for their use.

Thirty-eight responses were received and the data is currently being analysed, with the results to be compiled and reported on by both the RAIA and CHAA in the near future. It is anticipated that this will be the first of other surveys to be conducted jointly with the RAIA and other bodies to underpin the research being undertaken by CHAA across its programs.

- **Australasian Health Facility Guidelines**

The Australasian project is now well underway, with new logos designed and the first issue of the Australasian guidelines to be issued later this quarter. Stand by for further developments in this area.

USEFUL REFERENCES:

As of 2006 all Newsletter references will be included in the **CHAA website** (www.chaa.net.au) under the '**E-Resources**' link by being updated into the **Bookmark Development Set**. This bookmarks set is being updated and new resources added at least monthly by CHAA research staff as part of the Knowledge Management & Infrastructure (KIM) Project managed by Steve Tipper. A new newsletter feature in 2006 will be details of at least one "bookmark of the month".

A reading and reference list of resources on **Maternity Unit design and Paediatric Inpatient Unit design** has been included in the CHAA Bookmarks Set as of the 3rd February 2006. These important topics will be updated in subsequent newsletters as the new Health Facility Guidelines, including these particular HPUs, are released for comment and use. Clinical practice guidelines links for these services are not included in this Newsletter.

****Bookmarks of the month****

1. **OnDesign healthcare portal:** a centralised (DH_NHS_UK) resource for healthcare design professionals. OnDesign is a visually-led repository of information that aims to assist the creative and functional design process in healthcare design, and to encourage networking and the sharing of knowledge and best practice between healthcare design schemes. Developed by DH Estates and Facilities Design and Costing section. <http://design.dh.gov.uk/>

OnDesign connections (select tab on main site) has 'Design resources': Links to a range of resources and tools aimed at supporting professionals involved in various aspects of the healthcare design process. <http://design.dh.gov.uk/content/connections/resources.asp>

An example of the evidence-base available from past projects, including studies re physical design is at
http://design.dh.gov.uk/downloads/aedet_evolution/AEDET_Evolution_evidence_layer.pdf

2. **InformeDesign** is a research and communication tool for designers, created by The University of Minnesota. Research Summaries are FREE. Searches by keyword or by "Space" (categories include 'Healthcare') is recommended. <http://www.informedesign.com/>

Acknowledgement: *Some articles cited in the CHAA Bookmarks Set were provided by the Australian College of Health Services Executives (ACHSE) Library which also offers a document retrieval service (details available via their website www.achse.org.au/nsw/library.html)*

NEXT MONTH

We intend to cover the following topics in upcoming issues of this newsletter:

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| March 2006 | Pathology & Laboratory Design |
| April 2006 | Assessing the Impact of New Technologies on the design of Healthcare Facilities |
| May 2006 | Health Facility Design for Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) populations |

Please email us your links for useful resources, particularly where they are relevant to the upcoming subject areas, ASAP, and for the next newsletter **by Friday, 24th February 2006**.

Please also let us know of any areas of particular interest that we can address in future newsletters.

****Don't forget to circulate the newsletter amongst your colleagues, consultants, contractors, etc****

We look forward to producing future issues and to working with you in 2006.

Jane Carthey

31st January 2006

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