



Prince Sultan University

# CAD NEWSLETTER

SEMESTER 241

ISSUE 003

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## "Building Our Future: Welcoming Our New Dean of Architecture & Design"

### Welcome to Another Edition of Our College Newsletter!

It is a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all members of the CAD family—our students, faculty, staff, and supporters—who contribute to the vibrancy and inspiration of our community. As we progress together, the College of Architecture and Design at Prince Sultan University stands at a remarkable intersection where tradition meets innovation.

For us, design transcends the creation of structures; it is about telling meaningful stories, preserving cultural legacies, and nurturing sustainable environments. This edition of our newsletter takes you on a journey through creativity and design, highlighting the harmony between heritage and ecology.

It features insightful articles by our esteemed faculty, interviews with renowned architects and designers, showcases of student work, and updates on the latest industry trends and technologies.

Each page reflects our unwavering commitment to delivering a comprehensive and engaging learning experience for everyone.

Our newsletter serves as a platform to celebrate achievements, share inspiring stories, and strengthen the connections that define our vibrant community.

Thank you for being an integral part of this exciting journey. Together, we will continue to push boundaries and explore new possibilities in architecture and design.

**DR. RANDA A. MAHMOUD**



Randa A. Mahmoud serves as the Dean of the College of Architecture and Design at Prince Sultan University in Riyadh, KSA. An accomplished architect and urbanist, she earned her PhD from the Institut d'Urbanisme de Paris (IUP) at Paris-12 Val-de-Marne University in France and attained the rank of Professor of Environmental Planning in 2023 at Ain Shams University in Cairo.

Randa's professional experience includes her role as a Senior Architect and Urban Planner at DAR and her tenure as Head of the Architecture Department at the French University of Egypt and the coordinator for the dual diploma program between the French University of Egypt and INSA Strasbourg, France.

In 2013, she was nominated for the prestigious Aga Khan Award for Architecture for her work on the Beit Al Rawi housing project. Her extensive contributions to academia and architecture are reflected in her international and local publications, which explore critical topics such as urban and social resilience, vernacular architecture, gentrification, social integration, and climate-responsive design.





**Dr. Hend Ali, Msc, PhD, MCIAT,  
FHEA**  
Associate Professor

Dr. Hend Ali, MSc, PhD, MCIAT, FHEA, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture and a Chartered Architectural Technologist accredited by the UK Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists. She is also a Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy.

Before joining Prince Sultan University, Dr. Hend served as Senior Lecturer and Programme Director at Kingston University, London, where she led the MSc Surveying program, catering to domestic and international students. She was previously a Research Associate at the University of Nottingham, contributing to innovative research on integrating flexible photovoltaic modules into tensile structures, reflecting her research focus.

Dr. Hend has been a guest lecturer at UK institutions such as the University of East London and the University of Nottingham, delivering lectures and workshops on tensile membrane structures' design and analysis, showcasing her expertise in architectural technology and sustainable design.



**Dr. Amira ElBortokaly**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. El-Bortokaly is an architect and urban planner with rich academic and professional expertise. She holds a Ph.D. in urban design and Community Development from Cairo University and a Master's in Architectural Engineering in collaboration with Brandenburg Technical University, Germany. Her international education includes a diploma in Land Management from Rotterdam University and studies at HafenCity University, Germany.

Since 2012, Dr. El-Bortokaly has advanced through various academic roles at Cairo University, currently serving as an Assistant Professor. Professionally, she has led urban design initiatives at Associated Consultants Co. and is now Business Development Manager at Masarat Misr Co.

Her work spans urban design, strategic planning, and sustainable development, with notable contributions to major projects such as the crowd management study for Al-Haram Al-Makki, the development plan for New Alamein City, and the strategic plan for the Southern Nile Front of Greater Cairo Region.



**Dr. Malath Hamid**  
Assistant Professor

Dr Malathe Hamid is an assistant professor at Prince Sultan University-Riyadh. She was awarded her PhD from the University of Nottingham- UK in 2020.

Her research agenda and interests focus on issues related to the interplay between architecture, place, and identity within the processes of transformations in the built environments. Her interests also include the investigation of the local architectural and urban pattern languages as tools to help guide positive changes within the built environment. This includes working with local communities to document existing patterns, evaluate them, and finally propose their way forward.

Moreover, through her position, Dr Malathe aims to engage in projects with broader aims of strengthening the links between architectural education, practice, government, and the public. More research interests include promoting placemaking practices to help implement the documentation and development of the local pattern languages.



**Ms. Kawther Hameedaldeen**  
Lecturer

Ms. Kawther holds a master's degree in Architecture and Building Science and is currently working as a lecturer at Prince Sultan University. With extensive professional experience in architecture firms, universities, and research centers, she has developed expertise in her field. Ms. Kawther has published research papers in respected academic journals, focusing not only on building envelope materials and innovative techniques but also on the role of light and its impact on building appearance. Passionate about continuous learning, she thrives in diverse and dynamic environments.



**Dr. Nurah AlFowzan**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. Nurah Alfowzan, a graduate of Prince Sultan University (PSU), returns to the Interior Design department as an Assistant Professor. After earning her bachelor's from PSU, she completed a Master's in Interior Architecture at Suffolk University and a Ph.D. in Interior Design from the University of Florida.

With three years of experience as a lecturer, Dr. Nurah brings both teaching expertise and a passion for research. Her work focuses on the connection between environment and behavior, emphasizing Evidence-Based Design to enhance well-being through thoughtful spaces.

Dr. Nurah is excited to rejoin PSU and collaborate with the faculty.



**Ms. Muneera AlTamimi**  
Teaching Assistant

Prince Sultan University alumna Ms. Muneera Altamimi returns to the Interior Design department as a Teaching Assistant. After earning her bachelor's from PSU, Ms. Muneera gained hands-on experience as a freelance designer.

She is excited to bring her industry insights to the classroom, supporting students in their creative work and helping nurture the next generation of designers. Ms. Muneera looks forward to contributing to the university's dynamic learning environment.

# PSU Interior Design Students to Showcase Work at the 2025 Venice Biennale

## INTERIOR DEPT NEWS

*Writer: Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit*

This fall, students enrolled in the Interior Design course ID458 at Prince Sultan University participated in the "Living With" project, an ambitious international collaboration under the theme Living With: **Atlas of Risks**. Their work will be displayed in the French Pavilion at the Venice Biennale of Architecture 2025.

The Living With project brings together architecture and design schools from around the world, including **École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Marseille, École nationale supérieure d'architecture de Paris-La Villette, Kharkiv School of Architecture, SCI-Arc, Ain Shams University, and Prince Sultan University**. The initiative examines how contemporary architecture can respond to a state of constant instability—tackling various global and local challenges to reimagine sustainable ways of living on our planet.

PSU's Interior Design students explored a diverse range of risks impacting the built environment. **Their projects addressed global challenges such as heat, humidity, flooding, water scarcity, and pandemics, while some also focused on local issues in our region including sandstorms, drought, and extreme heat.**

The inclusion of PSU's work in the Venice Biennale 2025 highlights the creative and analytical abilities of our students, while also emphasizing the unique environmental challenges faced by our region. Through this opportunity, our students are contributing to a global dialogue, broadening perspectives on resilience and innovative solutions in architecture and design.







*Writer: Dr. Afsina Abbasi*



The College of Architecture and Design (CAD) hosted its highly anticipated COOP Day networking event on November 21, 2024. Organized by the Architecture and Interior Design Department, this annual gathering serves as a bridge between COOP companies and students ready to embark on professional careers, drawing participation from esteemed design firms.

True to its mission, the event provided an invaluable platform for senior architecture and interior design students, alumni, and industry professionals to connect and collaborate. **Renowned firms such as Motion Architects, Gallery Design, and Kristina Zanic** were among the many that engaged with students and prospective interns, fostering relationships that could shape the future of the industry.



Students had the opportunity to engage directly with industry leaders, gaining insights into professional practices across both national and international landscapes. The event also facilitated meaningful discussions about internships and potential partnerships. Alumni representatives enriched the experience by sharing their career journeys, highlighting the transformative power of their education, and reinforcing the bond between graduates and the university community.



Writer: Dr. Afsina Abbasi



The College of Architecture and Design (CAD) at Prince Sultan University hosted its inaugural **“Meet the CAD Grads”** portfolio exhibition on December 10, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. This landmark event highlighted the creative achievements of 57 senior Architecture and Interior Design students as they presented their portfolios to the College leaders and visitors.

**Aimed exclusively at a female audience, Meet the CAD Grads; is a platform for students to showcase their skills, innovation, and design acumen. Attendees, including faculty, industry leaders, and fellow students engaged directly with the graduates, explored their work, and discussed ideas.**





## MEET THE CAD GRADS : ID 435-PORTFOLIO DESIGN EVENT

*Writer: Dr. Afsina Abbasi*

This initiative, planned and organized by Dr. Afsina Abbasi and Ms. Muneera Al Tamimi from the Interior Design department alongside with Ms. Mariola Fernandes from the Architecture department, marked a significant milestone for CAD. It provided a unique opportunity for aspiring designers to gain inspiration from the graduating cohort and for industry professionals to connect with emerging talent.

As the first event of its kind, **Meet the CAD Grads** underscores CAD's dedication to fostering a culture of creativity, professional growth, and community engagement. The event was an inspiring experience for all participants, highlighting the exceptional work of the next generation of architects and designers.

## CAD EVENTS





# FOSTERING INNOVATION: PSU AND THU DISCUSS SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICES

## ARCHITECTURE EVENTS

*Ms. Danielle Catapang*

On November 28, 2024, the Sustainable Architecture Lab (SA Lab) at Prince Sultan University (PSU) hosted a welcome event for Tsinghua University (THU), facilitating a rich exchange of ideas among architecture students from both institutions. The event focused on **sustainable and innovative architectural practices**.

Asst. Professor Yan Gao, a leading figure in Chinese architecture, delivered the keynote presentation on "A New Prototype of Pan-Business Center in Saudi Arabia," highlighting adaptable design to foster business innovation and cultural exchange.

Students from both universities showcased their creative projects, demonstrating a strong commitment to integrating sustainability into modern architecture and reflecting the values of the next generation of architects.



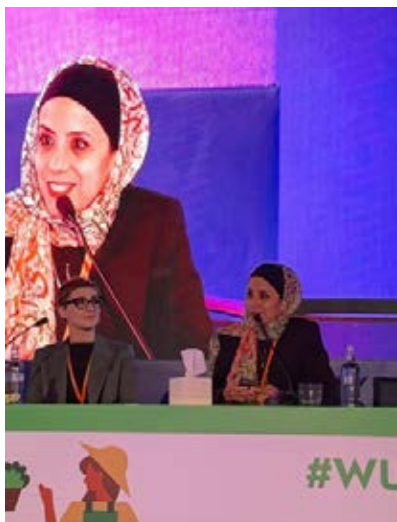


# THE ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT MAKES A STRONG SHOWING AT WUF12 IN CAIRO, EGYPT

## ARCHITECTURE EVENTS



We are excited to share that a talented team from the Architectural Department at Prince Sultan University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, **participated in the prestigious World Urban Forum (WUF12)**! Led by Dr. Shaimaa Ashour, Dr. Erna Husukic, and Dr. Malathe Hamid, the team had the opportunity to share their insights and expertise at two key events: Housing Our Future: Bridging Divides, Challenges, and Innovations Across Cultures & Visions for Rebuilding Sudan: Inclusivity, Resilience, and Participatory Placemaking.



Writer: Ms. Saja Alshaye

### Building a Sustainable Future: PSU's Inspiring Presence at the Sustainable Building Show 2024

In early June, the Riyadh Front Exhibition Center transformed into a hub of innovation, hosting the 2024 Sustainable Building Show (SBS). Prince Sultan University (PSU) took a bold step forward by joining industry giants to share its unique perspective on sustainability. As the only academic institution at SBS, PSU's presence highlighted the role of education in building a sustainable future through thoughtful design and practical solutions. Here's a look at PSU's meaningful contributions that inspired attendees and underscored the potential of sustainable development in Saudi Arabia.

### Driving Net-Zero Collaboration

In the panel "Building With Net Zero in Mind," PSU explored sustainable materials, passive solar design, and high-performance insulation for residential, commercial, and industrial sectors. The discussion emphasized the need for shared knowledge and cross-sector collaboration to make net-zero goals achievable.

### Student Innovation in Sustainability

PSU's vibrant booth featured interior design students tackling real-world sustainability challenges. Projects using eco-friendly materials and innovative designs underscored PSU's mission to equip the next generation with the skills and purpose to support Saudi Vision 2030. **As the only academic institution at the event, PSU left attendees inspired by the students' pioneering ideas.**





# PSU'S INSPIRING PRESENCE AT THE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING SHOW 2024

## INTERIOR DEPT. EVENTS

Writer: Ms. Saja Alshaye

### Advancing Energy-Efficient Design

PSU's presentation on "Energy Simulation for Sustainable Building" used Olaya Tower A as a case study to demonstrate data-driven design. By evaluating energy-efficient building envelopes, PSU showcased how simulation tools can guide sustainable architecture decisions and reduce environmental footprints.

### Leading by Example

PSU's involvement in SBS highlighted its dedication to sustainable practices aligned with Saudi Vision 2030. Through student innovation, academic research, and real-world applications, PSU inspired attendees and reaffirmed its role as a leader in building a more sustainable future.





# A JOURNEY THROUGH FABRICS: A LYRIA EXPERIENCE

INTERIOR DEPT.  
EVENTS

Writer: Ms. Walah Alqunaybit

## An Immersive Exploration into the World of Textiles

Last summer, a group of talented students from Prince Sultan University embarked on **an extraordinary journey to Lyria, a renowned fabrication company nestled near the enchanting city of Florence.** Under the guidance of Dr. Fatma Hasanain, the students, immersed themselves in the world of textiles, gaining invaluable insights into the industry and its latest trends.



## Participating students :

**ASEEL ALSAEID  
WASAN MOHAMED  
LUJAIN S ALZUAYR  
MARIYYAH ALGHAMDI  
ALANOUD ALTURKI  
LEEN ALDURABY**



## A Glimpse into the Future of Design

Through their participation in "Invitation to Lyria Academy: A Journey Through the Fabrics," the students were able to connect their academic knowledge with real-world experiences. They delved into the intricacies of sustainable development, explored the diverse cultural influences on design, and embraced the spirit of women's empowerment, aligning with Saudi Vision 2030.



# A JOURNEY THROUGH FABRICS: A LYRIA EXPERIENCE

INTERIOR DEPT.  
EVENTS

Writer: Ms. Walah Alqunaybit

## Showcasing Creativity and Innovation

The highlight of this experience was a captivating showcase of the students' work. They presented five unique seating furniture designs, carefully crafted using Lyria's exquisite fabrics. These miniature models, scaled at 1:5, showcased the students' creativity and innovative approach to design. Additionally, the students collaborated on a full-scale chair, demonstrating their ability to translate their ideas into tangible reality.



## A Partnership for the Future

The ceremony, which featured both the student showcase and a presentation by Lyria, highlighted the company's evolution from a fashion textile specialist to a leader in furniture textiles. This partnership between Prince Sultan University and Lyria signifies a commitment to fostering the next generation of designers and architects.



By participating in this immersive experience, the students gained a deeper understanding of the textile industry, honed their design skills, and developed a global perspective. This journey through fabrics will undoubtedly shape their future careers and inspire them to create innovative and sustainable designs.







## MEET THE ARCHITECTS: JAKOB + MACFARLANE

## CAD GUEST SPEAKERS

*Ms. Danielle Catapang*

The Architecture Department of CAD at PSU hosted acclaimed architects **Dominique Jakob and Brendan MacFarlane** on November 28, 2024, for a public lecture that engaged a diverse audience of students, faculty, and architecture enthusiasts. They highlighted themes of **sustainable design and contextual architecture** which ignited thought-provoking discussions and offered valuable insights into the evolving landscape of architecture.

Jakob and Macfarlane also engaged with PSU students in design studios, enhancing collaborative efforts for the French Pavilion project for the Venice Biennale on 2025. This hands-on experience allowed students to refine their skills, not only under the supervision of PSU Architecture Faculty, but also under their mentorship.

The event underscored PSU's dedication to promoting global collaborations and advancing sustainable architectural practices, further establishing the university's position as a regional leader in innovative design.



Meet the Architects:  
**Jakob + MacFarlane**  
المعماريان:  
جاكوب و ماكفارلين





# FROM BASUNA TO PARIS BY ENG. WALEED ARAFAH

## CAD GUEST SPEAKERS

*Ms. Danielle Catapang*

The Architecture Department of CAD welcomed architect **Waleed Arafa** for a lecture called **"From Basuna to Paris: Contextuality Between Risks and Opportunities."** The event, held on November 24, 2024, attracted a varied audience, including faculty and students, showcasing a keen interest in modern architecture.

Eng. Arafa discussed his design philosophy, focusing on the balance between contextual risks and opportunities. As a recipient of the Al-Fozan Award and a three-time nominee for the Aga Khan Award, his insights engaged attendees, motivating future architects to reflect on the broader implications of their work and emphasizing the significance of contextual awareness in architecture.



تدعوكم جامعة الأمير سلطان لحضور محاضرة  
**من بصونة إلى باريس**  
(السياق بين الأخطار والفرص)

PSU Invites you to attend  
**From BASUNA to PARIS**  
Contextually between Risk & Opportunity



*Ms. Danielle Catapang*



SA Lab hosted a global series of online seminars, bringing together architects and engineers to share expert knowledge on the latest developments in sustainable architecture. These sessions provided a unique opportunity for participants to explore innovative solutions and discuss the future of environmentally conscious design on a global scale.

### **Indoor Comfort and Building Design**

***Eng. Elena Guidolin***



The seminar by Eng. Elena Guidolin highlighted Nigerian architect Demas Nwoko's climate-responsive

designs focusing on sustainable strategies like natural ventilation, passive cooling, and local materials. Eng. Guidolin emphasized how Nwoko's work balances energy efficiency with indoor comfort, promoting both sustainability and occupant well-being.

### **Architecture and Cultural Identity**

***Arch. Sabrina Noca***



Arch. Sabrina Noca took the audience on a journey through Demas Nwoko's fusion of modernism and indigenous

Nigerian architecture. The seminar highlighted how Nwoko's designs emphasize cultural identity, sustainability, and the use of local materials, blending traditional heritage with global design trends.

### **Pan-Business Center in Saudi Arabia**

***Asst. Prof. Yan Gao***



Asst. Prof. Yan Gao from Tsinghua University (THU) recently presented a pioneering design for a Modular and

Prefabricated Pan-Business Center in Saudi Arabia. The project supports Saudi Arabia's goals of economic diversification and global prominence, especially with initiatives like World Expo 2030.

### **Recycling Cultures and Times**

***Prof. F. Javier Castellano Pulido***



In a recent online lecture, architect F. Javier Pulido explored the concept of recycling cultures and times through

architecture. He discussed how design can blend the past, present, and future by reimagining historical and contemporary elements in innovative ways. The lecture offered valuable insights into creative possibilities of adaptive reuse and sustainable architecture.

Writer : Ms. Mafaz Almoshiqeh

### BELabSeminar on "Application Strategies Towards Achieving a Sustainable Built Environment"

**SEMINARS 2024 – Built Environment Research Lab**

**CAD** **جامعة الامير سلطان** **PRINCE SULTAN UNIVERSITY** **BUILT ENVIRONMENT Research Group**

**Application Strategies Towards Achieving a Sustainable Built Environment**

**BELab Seminar**  
27<sup>th</sup> of October 2024  
4:00 – 5:00 PM

Video call link:  
<https://meet.google.com/kxo-zdpd-xkz>

**Dr. Martin Nwodo** obtained his bachelor's, and master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and University College London respectively. He completed his doctorate degree at the University of Florida's College of Design, Construction and Planning, with a concentration in Construction Management. His doctorate research was in Energy-based Life Cycle Assessment of Buildings, which is being patented by the US Patent and Trademark Office. He has published several articles, including four journal papers, from his research and currently serves as a reviewer for several Journal publishers.

Dr. Martin Nwodo currently works as a project manager in the construction industry, where he leverages his experience in engineering, construction, and sustainable built environment to effectively manage building projects through completion.

With a goal to help to bridge the gap between academia and industry, he continues his research in building sustainability while exploring its application to practice in the construction industry."

Organized by Dr. Fatma Hasanain | Built Environment Research Lab | Research Committee

On October 30th, 2024, Prince Sultan University hosted a highly engaging online seminar titled "**Application Strategies Towards Achieving a Sustainable Built Environment.**" The seminar, organized by Dr. Fatma Hasanain, was held from 4:00 to 5:00 PM and saw the participation of 14 attendees who were awarded certificates for their engagement.

The event featured a thought-provoking lecture by Dr. Martin Nwodo, a distinguished expert in civil engineering and sustainability. Dr. Nwodo obtained both his bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Nigeria.

Currently, he works as a project manager in the construction industry, bringing years of hands-on experience in engineering construction and sustainable building practices. His extensive career has focused on effectively managing building projects through all stages of completion.

During the lecture, **Dr. Nwodo highlighted critical strategies and real-world applications in the pursuit of sustainable built environments. He discussed the gap between academia and industry, emphasizing the importance of bridging this divide through research and practical application.** His ongoing research into building sustainability continues to explore ways to integrate these principles effectively within the construction industry.

The seminar served as an important platform for attendees to gain insights into the future of sustainable construction practices and how they can be applied within the industry to achieve long-term environmental goals.

Dr. Nwodo's presentation was well-received, with participants expressing appreciation for the valuable knowledge shared, particularly in terms of practical strategies for sustainable construction.



### Exploring the Future: BIM-Based Digital Twins for Facilities Management

Writer : Ms. Sarah AlQahtani

On October 20th, 2024, Prince Sultan University's College of Architecture and Design hosted a fascinating online seminar titled **"BIM-Based Digital Twins for Facilities Management."** Presented by Dr. Kofi Asare, an accomplished Assistant Professor from the University of Oklahoma, the session explored groundbreaking innovations in facilities management and their applications in the built environment.

Dr. Asare, who leads the Construction Innovation and Analytics Lab (ClnaLAB), shared his extensive expertise on integrating Building Information Modeling (BIM) with Digital Twins. He highlighted how these technologies create virtual replicas of physical spaces, enabling better performance analysis, cost efficiency, and safety enhancements.

A key takeaway from the seminar was Dr. Asare's explanation of how digital twins empower stakeholders to make smarter, data-driven decisions. **By combining real-time data with advanced design strategies, digital twins help facilities adapt to changing needs while maximizing value.** Dr. Asare further enriched the session with real-world examples, making complex concepts accessible and engaging for the audience.

The seminar, organized by Dr. Fatma Hasanain from the Built Environment Research Lab, drew significant interest from faculty members and students alike. Although the session was held online, the interactive format allowed for dynamic discussions and thought-provoking questions, showcasing the university community's commitment to staying ahead in architectural innovation.

The attendees left with valuable insights and a deeper appreciation for the transformative potential of BIM and digital twins in modern facilities management.



### Enhancing Sustainability and User Experience through Adaptive Design Strategies

Writer : Ms. Mafaz Almoshiqeh

On November 3rd, 2024, Prince Sultan University hosted the third installment of the *BELab Seminar Series*, titled **"Adaptive Design Strategies: Enhancing Sustainability and User Experience in Architecture and Interiors."** The seminar, which took place from 12:00 to 1:00 PM, was organized by Dr. Nadia Arafah and featured an insightful presentation by Mr. Rami Moussa, a seasoned design and technical director with over 20 years of experience in architecture, landscape, and urban design.

Mr. Moussa, who holds a master's degree in architectural engineering from Heriot-Watt University, shared his extensive expertise on adaptive design. During his presentation, he explored how adaptive design strategies in both architectural exteriors and interiors can create more sustainable, efficient, and user-centered spaces. His groundbreaking dissertation on adaptive building envelopes earned him the Student Merit Prize at Heriot-Watt University, and he is also a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and a leading professional with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

**SEMINARS 2024 – Built Environment Research Lab**



**Adaptive Design Strategies: Enhancing Sustainability and User Experience in Architecture and Interiors**

**BELab Seminar  
3rd of Nov 2024  
12:00 – 1:00 PM**

**Video call link:**  
<https://meet.google.com/abh-oqfv-pod>



**Abstract:**

Adaptive design is reshaping the way we think about built environments by allowing buildings and spaces to respond dynamically to changing conditions. In this presentation, we will explore how adaptive strategies—both in architectural exteriors and interior design—create more sustainable, efficient, and user-centered spaces. Audience will gain insights into the practical and theoretical foundations of adaptive design. We will discuss how kinetic façades, intelligent building systems, and flexible interiors improve occupant comfort and operational efficiency. The presentation also addresses future trends in smart materials and AI-powered spaces, providing participants with knowledge relevant to both their studies and future professional practice. Through real-design case studies and a strategic design framework, the session will illustrate the challenges and opportunities in adaptive design. Participants will see how modular furniture, dynamic façades, and responsive environments foster more resilient and sustainable design solutions.



Organized by Dr. Nadia Arafah | Built Environment Research Lab | Research Committee

The presentation delved into the practical and theoretical foundations of adaptive design, emphasizing how buildings and spaces can dynamically respond to changing conditions. **Mr. Moussa discussed the role of intelligent building systems, flexible interiors, and smart materials in improving occupant comfort and operational efficiency. He also highlighted the impact of AI-powered spaces on the future of architecture and interiors.**

For students and professionals alike, the seminar provided invaluable insights into the latest trends and technologies shaping the future of design. Attendees left with a deeper understanding of how adaptive design can enhance both the sustainability and user experience of built environments, preparing them for future careers in architecture and interior design.



### "The Future of Design"

Interior Design lecture Illuminates the path forward for students.

Writer- Ms. Muneera AlTamimi



On October 1, 2024, the Design and Architecture Department hosted an engaging lecture titled **"The Future of Design,"** presented by Noor Charchafchi, CEO of Celine Interior Design. Held at Building 105 Auditorium from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Charchafchi, who ranks among the top 50 interior designers in the UK, shared her visionary approach to interior design, highlighting how true design transcends style and personality. Instead, she emphasized, it should embody the essence of the inhabitants, transforming spaces into something extraordinary and deeply personal.

**Noor stressed the importance of genuine expression in design, free from personal ego, to create profound connections with the people who use the spaces.**

Drawing on her diverse background, including her Iraqi-British heritage and experience working with aristocracy, royalty, and diplomats, Charchafchi has positioned Celine Interior Design as a symbol of sophistication and refinement. During her lecture, she also discussed the significance of preserving Saudi identity in modern designs, aligning with the country's Vision 2030, and the role of heritage in shaping future luxury.

This lecture resonated deeply with the audience, offering insights into how interior design can adapt to evolving cultural and aesthetic landscapes while maintaining authenticity and connection to the past.



# PSU LAUNCHES ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP FOR ALULA WITH FRENCH INSTITUTIONS

## ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT COLLABORATIONS

الهيئة الملكية لمحافظة العلا  
ROYAL COMMISSION FOR ALULA



جامعة الأمير سلطان  
PRINCE SULTAN  
UNIVERSITY



Prince Sultan University (PSU) has partnered with **Villa Hegra, Patrimed, and ENSA Paris to create a unique academic exchange focused on innovative urban solutions for AlUla, Saudi Arabia.** The program brings together 30 architecture students from PSU, ENSA Paris Malaquais, and ENSA Paris Val-de-Seine to collaborate on design projects. This initiative, supported by the Royal Commission for AlUla (RCU), promotes cultural understanding and cross-border collaboration. The first workshop in AlUla, held from October 16-22, 2024, allowed



students to explore the region's cultural and natural heritage. PSU faculty guided students through site visits to iconic locations such as AlUla's Old Town and the Maraya theatre, fostering a deeper connection to the region's identity. The students presented their innovative design concepts to the RCU, with a second workshop planned for February 2025 in Paris. This partnership highlights the ongoing Saudi-French collaboration in architectural knowledge-sharing and cultural exchange.





# PSU STUDENTS TACKLE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS AT THE UPCOMING 2025 VENICE BIENNALE

## ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT COLLABORATIONS

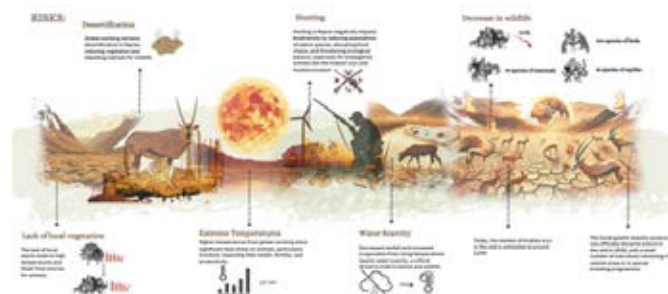
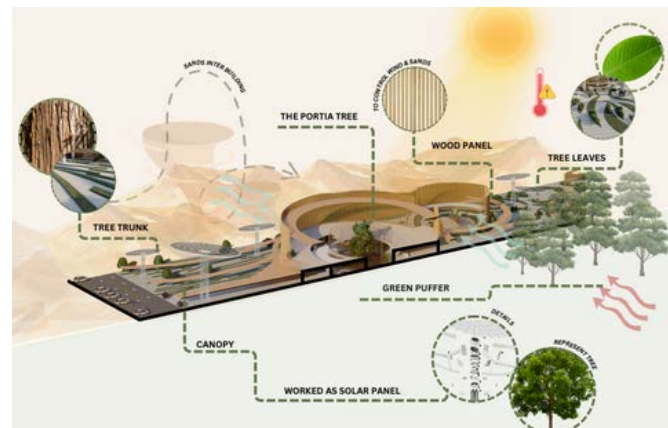
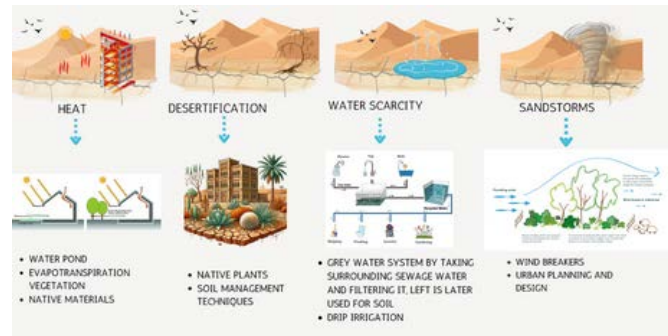
*Ms. Danielle Catapang*

Prince Sultan University (PSU) will contribute to the **2025 Venice Biennale of Architecture through the French Pavilion's exhibition "Living With."** Curated by Jakob+Macfarlane, Eric Daniel-Lacombe, and Martin Duplantier, the exhibition explores how architecture can help humanity adapt to climate change, conflicts, and instability.

PSU's architecture students, **guided by Dr. Monica Moscatelli, Dr. Amira Elbortokaly, Ms. Alaa Arabi, and Ms. Danielle Catapang**, focused on Saudi Arabia as their territory, studying the risks of water and air. **Aligned with Saudi Vision 2030 and the Green Saudi Initiative**, their projects documented the territory's current environmental conditions, historical risk evolution, and future forecasts, ultimately developing architectural responses that address these risks through **sustainable and adaptive design**.

PSU's work highlights how architecture can provide resilient, future-proof solutions to the pressing environmental challenges facing the region. Their participation at the Biennale will showcase their commitment to innovative, sustainable design in a rapidly changing world.

Stay tuned for more updates as PSU's contribution to the French Pavilion in Venice Biennale of Architecture 2025 unfolds!



SCI-AFC



جامعة الامير سلطان  
PRINCE SULTAN  
UNIVERSITY



X KHARKIV  
SCHOOL of  
ARCHITECTURE

ensa m école nationale  
supérieure  
d'architecture  
de marseille



# Celine Interiors x KAFD:

A Collaborative Vision of Saudi Culture and Design

INTERIOR DEPT  
COLLABORATIONS

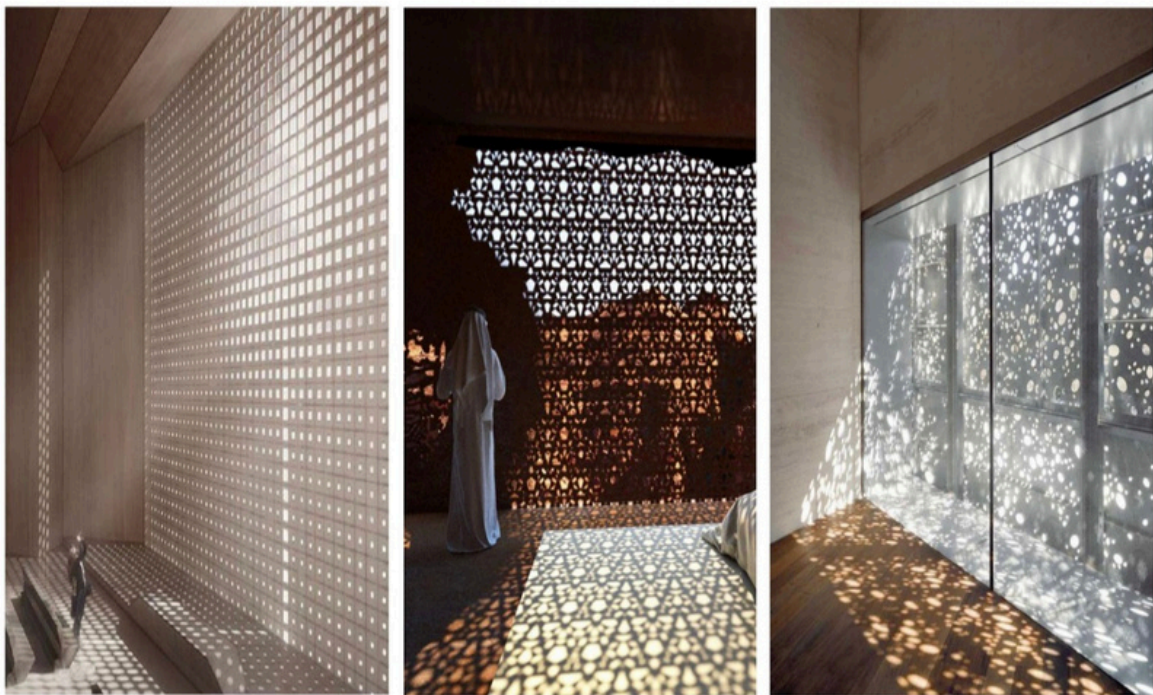
Writer: Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit

## A Unique Partnership

Celine Interiors, a renowned interior design firm, has embarked on an exciting collaboration with the King Abdullah Financial District (KAFD) to design residential living buildings. This ambitious project involves the design of six prototype residences that will showcase the rich tapestry of Saudi culture, reinterpreted through the lens of contemporary design.



This collaboration was overseen by Dr. Israa Fardous, Chairperson of the Interior Design Department at Prince Sultan University, and Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit. Their guidance and expertise were instrumental in shaping the project's success.



LOOK & FEEL



# Celine Interiors x KAFD:

A Collaborative Vision of Saudi Culture and Design

INTERIOR DEPT  
COLLABORATIONS

Writer: Ms. Wallah AlQunaybit

## A Bridge Between Tradition and Modernity

To infuse the project with authentic Saudi flair, Celine Interiors partnered with Prince Sultan University's College of Architecture and Design. Talented interior design students, hailing from Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries, were given the opportunity to contribute their unique perspectives and insights. Their deep-rooted understanding of Saudi culture and their creative vision were instrumental in shaping the design concepts.

## A Collaborative Design Process

The students, under the guidance of their professors, developed innovative design proposals, complete with mood boards and detailed presentations. These submissions were meticulously reviewed by Celine Interiors' team, led by the esteemed interior designer, Ms. Noor Charchafchi. This invaluable feedback provided the students with invaluable insights and helped refine their designs.



## A Platform for Emerging Talent

The collaboration with Celine Interiors offered these aspiring designers a truly exceptional opportunity to work on a high-profile project in one of Riyadh's most prestigious districts. By participating in this project, the students gained practical experience, honed their skills, and expanded their professional networks.

## A Transformative Experience

This invaluable experience has equipped the students with a comprehensive understanding of the design industry, from conceptualization to execution. By working on a real-world project in collaboration with a renowned designer like Ms. Noor Charchafchi, the students have gained practical skills and industry insights that will undoubtedly benefit them in their future careers. This collaboration has not only enhanced their portfolios but also instilled in them a sense of confidence and professionalism. As they embark on their professional journeys, they carry with them the knowledge and inspiration gained from this extraordinary opportunity.



# Manarat Al Riyadh School Design Competition

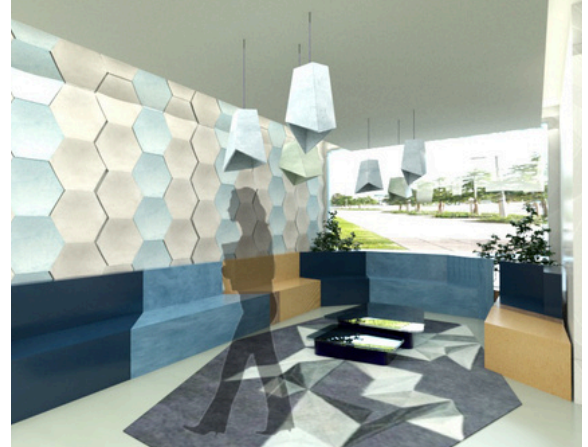
## INTERIOR DEPT COLLABORATIONS

Writer: Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit

Manarat Al Riyadh School, a prestigious educational institution, is embarking on a significant renovation of its high school building. To ensure that the new design reflects the school's values and meets the needs of its students, the school has partnered with Prince Sultan University's College of Architecture and Design to launch a design competition.

### A Real-World Learning Experience

The competition, a core component of the **ID314 Educational Building Design Studio course**, provides an invaluable opportunity for interior design students to apply their theoretical knowledge to a real-world project. **Taught by a team of experienced educators, including Dr. Renad Alsekait, Ms. Nojoud Alaskar, Ms. Mashaal Almadi, and Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit**, the course empowers students to tackle complex design challenges. By working on the renovation of an existing building, students gain practical experience in site analysis, space planning, material selection, and construction documentation.



*Writer: Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit*

To ensure that the design aligns with the specific requirements of the school community, the university organized a site visit for the participating students. This visit allowed them to:

- **Observe the existing building:** Analyze the current layout, spatial organization, and architectural features.
- **Meet with students and faculty:** Gain firsthand insights into their needs, preferences, and aspirations for the new design.
- **Understand the school's culture and identity:** Develop a design that reflects the school's unique character and values.

### **A Bright Future for the School**

The submitted design proposals will be carefully evaluated by a panel of experts. The winning design will serve as the blueprint for the high school renovation, creating a modern and inspiring learning environment. This collaborative effort between Manarat Al Riyadh School and Prince Sultan University exemplifies the power of design to transform spaces and enhance the educational experience.







### Three Teams from the Architecture Department Honored with the Prince Abdulaziz bin Ayyaf Award for Humanizing Cities within the Urban Design Studio Initiative

The cooperative studio brings together architecture students from Riyadh universities to design projects that enhance cities' humanization, focusing on selected sites' cultural, social, and economic aspects. The initiative promotes creative solutions, critical thinking, and competition, with the best project recognized at a ceremony attended by key figures. The student team of Adim Alnassar, Reema Alkhilaifi, Dana Abuswaireh, and Roaa Alribh, with their project "Alnada District | Unmasking Riyadh's Urban Identity," were **awarded for their innovative work**. Similarly, Latifa Alshikh and Reem Alsaleh's project, "Al-Ghadeer Plaza," and Rahaf's project, "Gerass," also **earned recognition**. All three projects were **honored by Prince Abdulaziz bin Mohammed bin Ayyaf Al Muqrin at the prestigious ceremony**.





# ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS WINNING AALI AL RIYADH COMPETITION

## ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS

أمانة منطقة الرياض  
RIYADH REGION MUNICIPALITY



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The students Yara Al-Huwaireini and Nada Abduljabar from the Department of Architecture at the College of Architecture and Design, under the supervision of Dr. Amani Derbali, **won third place in the “Aali Al-Riyadh” competition in the student category.** This competition was organized by the **Riyadh Municipality** to support local talents in designing quality projects, enhance the use of Riyadh's natural features, and provide urban studies and sustainable solutions in architecture and design for the site located in the Al-Awaly neighborhood overlooking Wadi Hanifa.



# ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS SHINE AT THE DIRIYAH GLOBAL SEMINAR 2024

## ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS

Writer: Ms. Somayah Alqayem



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Students from the Department of Architecture at the College of Architecture and Design at the University of **PSU** **took the top four positions** in the Student Research Competition at the 2024 Diriyah International Forum. The event, held on December 8-9, 2024, under the theme "Diriyah at the Crossroads of History and Trade," was organized by the Diriyah Gate Development Authority. The competition saw 96 students from various universities across the Kingdom and the Gulf region, with 12 teams nominated for awards. Notably, 9 teams from the university's Architecture Department participated, winning significant recognition.

The winning projects, led by student teams under the guidance of Dr. Amani Salman and Dr. Monica Moscatelli, covered topics such as **the preservation of Diriyah's heritage, the impact of green buildings, and environmental influences on tangible heritage**. The winners received a total of **65,000 SAR in prize money**. The competition was a unique opportunity for students to showcase their research on the region's cultural and architectural heritage and to engage in academic discussions with international scholars.



# ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS SHINE AT THE DIRIYAH GLOBAL SEMINAR 2024

## ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS



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**1st  
Place**

Shaden Aldohan

Yara Aljohani

The Impact and  
Conservation of  
Diriya.

**2nd  
Place**

Yasmeen Al-Kubaisy

Omayrah Fedah

Maha Al-Garni

Cost - Benefits of  
Green Buildings in  
Diriyah.

**3rd  
Place**

Wasan Mohamed

Shahla Al-Luhaidan

Aseel Al-Saeid

Al-Jazi Al-Nasyan

Material Heritage  
and Environmental  
Impacts.

**4th  
Place**

Shams Aljarba

Asmaa Alhadi

Shahad Alqahtani

Preserving the Past,  
Shaping the Future:  
An Approach to  
Ghasiba's  
Architecture.

# ARCH STUDENTS SHORTLISTED FOR KING SALMAN CHARTER FOR ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM AWARD

## ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS



The Department of Architecture at Prince Sultan University's is honored to announce **the shortlisted of 2 Architectural students** to present their projects in the university student design projects track in the first addition of the **King Salman Charter for Architecture and Urbanism Award**. The projects are: "**Co Rise**," designed by student Khuloud Al Harthi under the supervision of Dr. Eman Sabry, and "**Abq Al Murakh**" designed by student Huda Saeed Al Qahtani under the supervision of Dr. Ola Jarrar. **These 2 projects were among the shortlisted projects for the top 8 projects** in the university student projects track for the award.



"**Co Rise**," designed by student Khuloud Al Harthi under the supervision of Dr. Eman Sabry.

"**Abq Al Murakh**" designed by student Huda Saeed Al Qahtani under the supervision of Dr. Ola Jarrar.

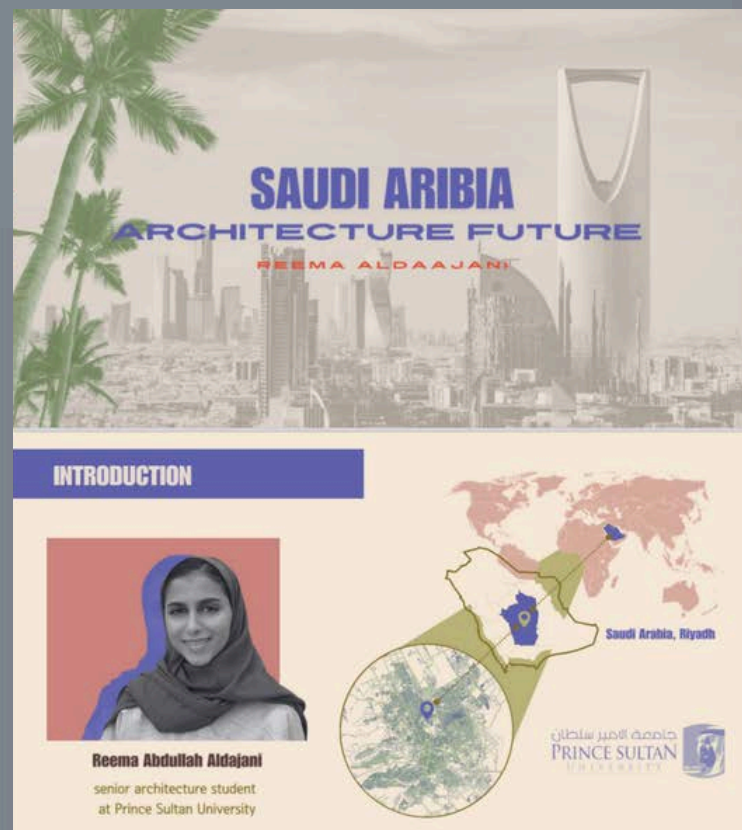
## ARCH STUDENTS MAKES A STRONG SHOWING AT TANWEEN, ITHRAA EXPO

Huda Al Qahtani's project, Abq Marakh Asiri Culinary Arts Center Abha, was **showcased at the Tanween 2024 Graduation Projects Exhibition by Ithra Aramco in Dhahran.** Celebrating Asiri culinary traditions, the center draws inspiration from the Markh tree, symbolizing cultural authenticity and connection to the land. Located in the heart of Abha, the project offers visitors a sensory journey through public plazas, farms, and pathways, blending traditional food-making narratives with innovative design. Its seamless integration with the region's unique architecture and mountainous terrain highlights the enduring beauty of Asiri heritage.



## ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS SHINE AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW

Proud moment Our architecture students Reema Aldajani & Reema Saad Supervised by Dr Salma Dawidar represented the architecture department at the **International Conference of Young Architects in Moscow** Reema Saad **won 5th place** for her Mixed-use Building project while Reema Aldajani was invited as a **guest speaker** Huge congrats.





# LANDSCAPE MIDDLE EAST AWARD 2024 IN THE CATEGORY "STUDENTS DESIGN"

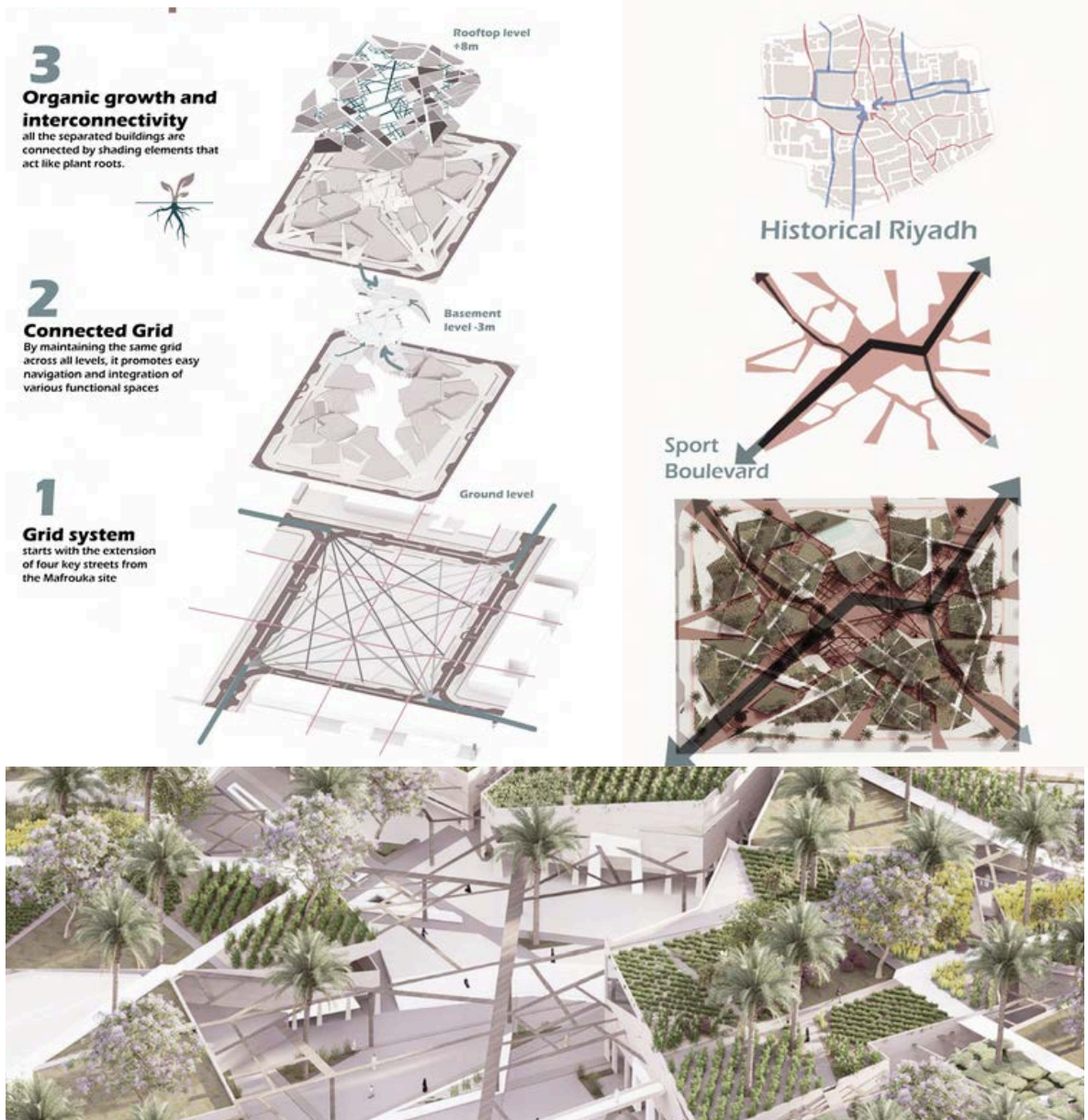
## ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS

### "Exciting Announcement: ARCH Student Rahaf Hamad Aladwan Nominated for the 2024 Landscape Middle East Award!"

The Students Design category received over 40 student projects from more than 10 universities across the Middle East. Her project, 'Gheras', transforms underutilized urban spaces into vibrant community hubs, emphasizing sustainability and creativity under the guidance of Dr. Jane Handal.

Supported by the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) and the Saudi Society of Landscape Architects (SSLA), **this award honors innovative designs promoting environmental resilience, societal well-being, and sustainable growth.** Additionally, Dr. Monica Moscatelli, served on the advisory and jury board for this distinguished event.

Congratulations to Rahaf for this outstanding achievement!



Writer : Ms. Muneera AlTamimi

### PSU Students Make Waves in International Design Competition



Interior Design students recently made a significant impact on the international design scene, **collaborating with The Living Design Project (TLDP) to design a hotel in Parramatta, Australia.** This intensive six-week program, mentored by industry experts like Ms. Delphine from TLDP and PSU faculty members Ms. Wafa Althiab and Ms. Nora Aji, Ms. Mashael Almadhi and Ms. Bayan Alarnous, pushed students to their creative limits.



Our talented PSU students not only met but surpassed the client's expectations, with three teams emerging victorious. Their innovative designs showcased a deep understanding of the project's requirements, a keen eye for detail, and a strong commitment to sustainable design principles.

This collaboration with TLDP marks a pivotal moment for PSU, solidifying the university's reputation for fostering creativity, innovation, and global partnerships. By providing students with real-world opportunities to work on international projects, PSU empowers the next generation of design leaders.

#### Congratulations to our winning teams:

- **Bronze: Alhanouf Mulhi Salamah Bin Suaydan, Danah Saad Fahad Alhaqbani**
- **Silver: Rwdeen Majed Obaid Almuzaini, Nourah Hasan Buti Alotaibi**
- **Gold: Reem Hamood Ibrahim Algusair, Sara Alaa Mohamed Alhissi**

Writer : Dr. Afsina Abbasi

### Interior Design student Deema Hassan Wins 2nd Place in Prestigious Index Competition

Deema Hassan, a senior Interior design student achieved remarkable recognition by securing 2nd place in the esteemed Index competition with her graduation project, **Journey**.

**Journey is an innovative mental health retreat center designed to provide a sanctuary for emotional healing and well-being.** Combining cutting-edge architectural concepts with a deep understanding of mental health needs, Deema's project stood out for its thoughtful design and innovative approach. The retreat center includes serene spaces, functional layouts, and carefully curated elements aimed at fostering tranquility and rejuvenation.



The project, presented with detailed plans and striking 3D renderings, impressed the competition judges for its blend of aesthetics, functionality, and its contribution to addressing mental health challenges through design.

Deema's success at the Index competition underscores College of Architecture and Design's commitment to nurturing creativity and innovation among its students. Her achievement also reflects the university's dedication to preparing graduates to address real-world challenges with meaningful and impactful solutions.

Her achievement is a proud moment for PSU, highlighting the university's role in fostering the next generation of design leaders.







Copyright to Qiddiya ©

The Architecture Department of Prince Sultan University had the privilege to participate in an inspiring educational field trip to Qiddiya as part of the "Youth Majlis: A Conversation About Designing the City of the Future". The students engaged in insightful panel discussions, including "Harnessing the Power of PLAY" and "Sustainability and Biodiversity Conservation", where they explored innovative approaches to urban design and carbon-zero construction practices. The event provided a unique platform for knowledge exchange, offering the students the opportunity to interact with Qiddiya's visionaries and contribute their thoughtful questions to the conversation. The site visit to Qiddiya further enriched the experience, allowing our future architects to witness firsthand the groundbreaking strategies shaping a sustainable and dynamic city of tomorrow. Special thanks to the organizers for fostering such meaningful dialogue and inspiring the next generation of city-makers!



Arch 412 Urban design studio had organized a site visit to AlDeira neighborhood in downtown Riyadh earlier this semester. Students with their Instructors have visited this rich historical site with its rich historical urban fabric encompassing Almasmak palace, AlHokm Palace, AlFootah park and a distinctive traditional mud residential architecture fabric. This site marked the studio's case study, where students have extensively and comprehensively analyzed it then designed several interventions to upgrade this whole site. The proposed interventions ranged from upgrading streets, building's facades and open spaces to adding new buildings and projects. The final design outcome has generally shown the awareness and respect for Saudi architectural and urban identity.



### ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS FIELD TRIP TO TADAWUL BUILDING IN KING ABDULLAH FINANCIAL CITY



The Architecture Department and the Heritage and Architecture Club arranged visits to the Tadawul Building in King Abdullah Financial City on October 16 and 25. The trips focused on contemporary administrative building design and sustainable technologies. Students attended a lecture on construction techniques and toured the building to examine its innovative aspects. The visits were supervised by Al-Dammamah and guided by faculty members Salma Dowidar, Dr. Hala Sorour, Dr. Amani Derballii, Dr. Monica, and Miss Reem.

### PSU CONSTRUCTION SITES



On October 23, the students of the second year of Arch 251 visited the under-construction site of the Aviation Training Center and the female students' activities building at Prince Sultan University to learn about the different construction methods and learn about the various types and materials of finishing. The students were accompanied by Dr. Rasha Musa and Dr. Salma Dowidar.

### ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS FIELD TRIP TO HERITAGE HOUSE



As Part of Saudi Heritage class, one Architecture Student invited her colleagues and instructors to visit a Historic house In Al Malaz Neighborhood in Riyadh that belongs to her Grandfather The house was built in 1953 showcasing a remarkable History and a rich Najdi architecture legacy having been owned first by King Saud before going to Al Mutawaa Family current owners of the house.

## VISIT TO THE HOUSE - Abdullah Al Khorayef Villa



First-year architecture students at Prince Sultan University had the opportunity to explore an architectural house as part of their Principles of Architecture curriculum. This visit aims to provide students with hands-on learning experiences, allowing them to observe and analyze architectural elements, design principles, and spatial organization in a real-world context.

## FIELD TRIP TO ALROWAD SCHOOL



The Heritage and Architecture Club, in collaboration with the Architecture Department, organized a visit for Al-Rowad Private Schools students on November 20. Led by Dr. Salma Dowidar and 6 female students, the visit aimed to introduce students to Saudi Arabia's urban heritage, emphasize the importance of preservation, and showcase the club's and department's activities. This initiative provided valuable learning experiences while promoting community service and knowledge sharing.



مدارس الرواد الأهلية  
Al-Rowad Private Schools

## VISIT TO INDEX



The College of Architecture and Design at Prince Sultan University received a kind invitation from the International Accreditation Council for Architecture and Design (CIAAD), in cooperation with KOHLER, to visit them at their booth at the INDEX-KSA exhibition. During the visit, the female students and faculty members had the opportunity to learn about everything new regarding the indoor built environment from various parts of the world



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SAUDI ARABIA

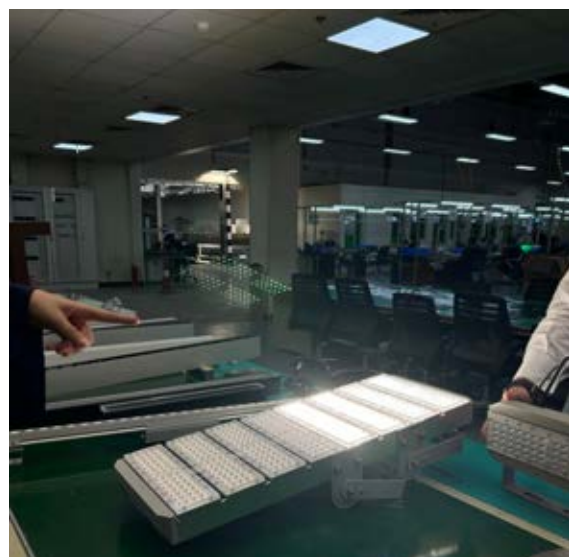


*Writer : Ms. Yara Alanazi*

On October 29, 2024, the Interior Design Department at Prince Sultan University (PSU) embarked on a valuable field trip to the Nassli LED Industrial Factory in Riyadh linking academic learning with real-world application. Led by Dr. Nadia Arafah, the group of students and faculty toured the state-of-the-art facility, which specializes in producing advanced lighting solutions. The visit gave students a firsthand look at the production processes behind innovative lighting systems, transforming theoretical concepts into tangible experiences.

**During the tour, the PSU team interacted with Nassli's experts, discussing the design and manufacturing of lighting technologies while exploring the requirements for a collaborative project with the Ministry of Interior for the Emirate of Hail.** These discussions allowed students to understand how to comply with the Saudi Building Code and sparked creative brainstorming sessions, offering valuable insights into the practical aspects of lighting design for large-scale projects.

By the end of the day, students left the factory inspired and motivated, with a clearer understanding of how their work as designers can impact and enhance real-world environments. This collaboration with Nassli represents a major milestone for PSU's Interior Design Department, demonstrating its commitment to providing hands-on learning opportunities and fostering connections with the industry. The outcomes of this partnership, especially the lighting solutions developed for the Emirate of Hail, will reflect the creativity and expertise of PSU's students.





# Field Trip to Construction Site: A Hands-On Learning Experience

## INTERIOR DESIGN FIELD TRIPS

*Writer: Ms. Walah Alqunaybit*

To enrich the learning experience of our Interior Design students, the Department of Architecture and Design organized two field trips to an under-construction building on the Prince Sultan University campus. These trips were designed to bridge the gap between theory and practice, providing students with a hands-on learning experience.

ID251 Building Construction & Structure Trip (September 15, 2024, Term 241) was organized by Dr. Israa Fardous, Dr. Nesma Mohammed, and Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit. ID353 Working Drawings & Detailing II Trip (September 18, 2024, Term 241) was organized by Ms. Raja Alnasrullah, Ms. Dalal Al Aqeel, and Ms. Wallah Alqunaybit.

**By visiting the construction site, students were able to:**

- **Witness firsthand the various stages of the construction process, from foundation laying to finishing touches.**
- **Gain a deeper understanding of construction techniques, materials, and industry standards.**
- **Improve their ability to accurately represent architectural details in their drawings.**
- **Develop a strong foundation for future professional practice.**

These invaluable experiences allowed students to apply their theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios, fostering a deeper appreciation for the intricacies of the construction industry. The Department of Architecture and Design remains committed to providing students with opportunities to learn both inside and outside the classroom.



Writer : Ms. Bayan Arnous



**On October 30th, Interior Design students from the ID315 Hospitality Design course embarked on an enriching field trip to the iconic Riyadh Sheraton Hotel.** This 35-year-old architectural masterpiece provided the perfect backdrop for students to delve deeper into the intricacies of hotel services and operations.

Accompanied by their knowledgeable instructors, students had the unique opportunity to explore the hotel's various facilities, including its elegant lobby, luxurious guest rooms, and state-of-the-art meeting rooms. By observing firsthand, the meticulous attention to detail and the seamless integration of form and function, students gained invaluable insights into the design principles that underpin successful hospitality spaces.

The highlight of the trip was a guided tour conducted by experienced hotel staff. Students learned about the hotel's rich history, its commitment to exceptional guest experiences, and the challenges and opportunities faced by the hospitality industry in today's dynamic landscape.

**This immersive experience not only broadened students' understanding of hotel design but also ignited their passion for creating spaces that evoke comfort, elegance, and functionality.** By applying the knowledge gained from this field trip to their coursework, students are poised to become skilled designers who can shape the future of the hospitality industry.





**Sara Allam AlBarazi** is a driven and passionate architecture student whose love for math and art found the perfect harmony in the field of architecture. Through her work, she combines technical precision with creative expression, using her designs as a means to communicate emotions, thoughts, and philosophies. Her journey in architecture reflects her unwavering dedication to growth and her vision of creating spaces that connect people to nature and each other.

**What made you choose Architecture as your field?**

Architecture has always fascinated me because it is a perfect blend of logic and creativity. My love for math and art naturally drew me to a field where I could merge these passions seamlessly. To me, architecture is more than just designing buildings; it's a platform for self-expression and storytelling. Every line drawn and every space created is an opportunity to communicate emotions, thoughts, and ideas, making architecture a deeply personal and fulfilling pursuit.

**What are the key driving points that push you to do your best?**

My key driving points are my long-term goals and the desire to make my parents proud, which constantly motivates me to work hard and strive for excellence.

**Which project do you strongly connect to and why?**

Among the projects I've worked on, I feel a deep connection to the Alsalawana project. Collaborating with my talented friend, Abeer Eloud, allowed me to explore a philosophical approach in design, making the experience truly special.



**How important is being disciplined for student success?**

discipline, patience, passion, and faith are the cornerstones of success. These principles have guided me throughout my educational journey and remain integral to my growth.

**Who has been your inspiration?**

My inspiration comes from my loved ones and mentors, whose support and guidance have always encouraged me to push forward. Additionally, I find creativity through music, nature, and traveling—taking breaks helps me gain fresh perspectives and sparks new ideas.

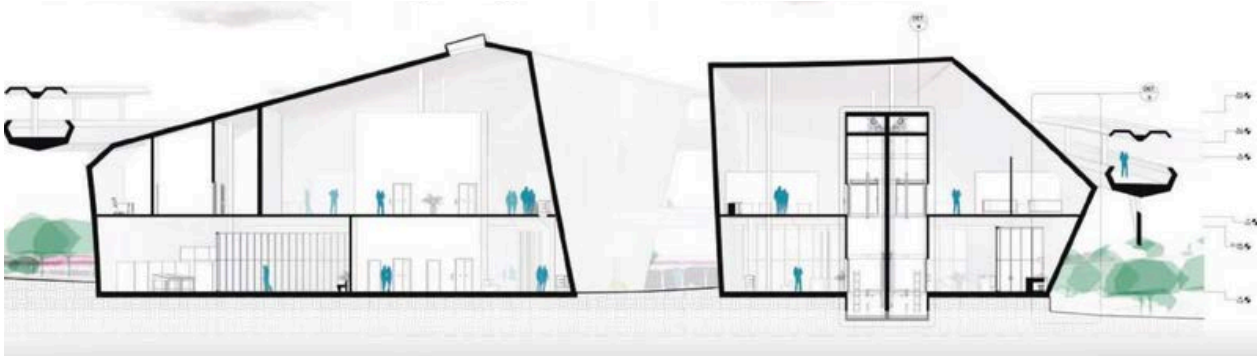
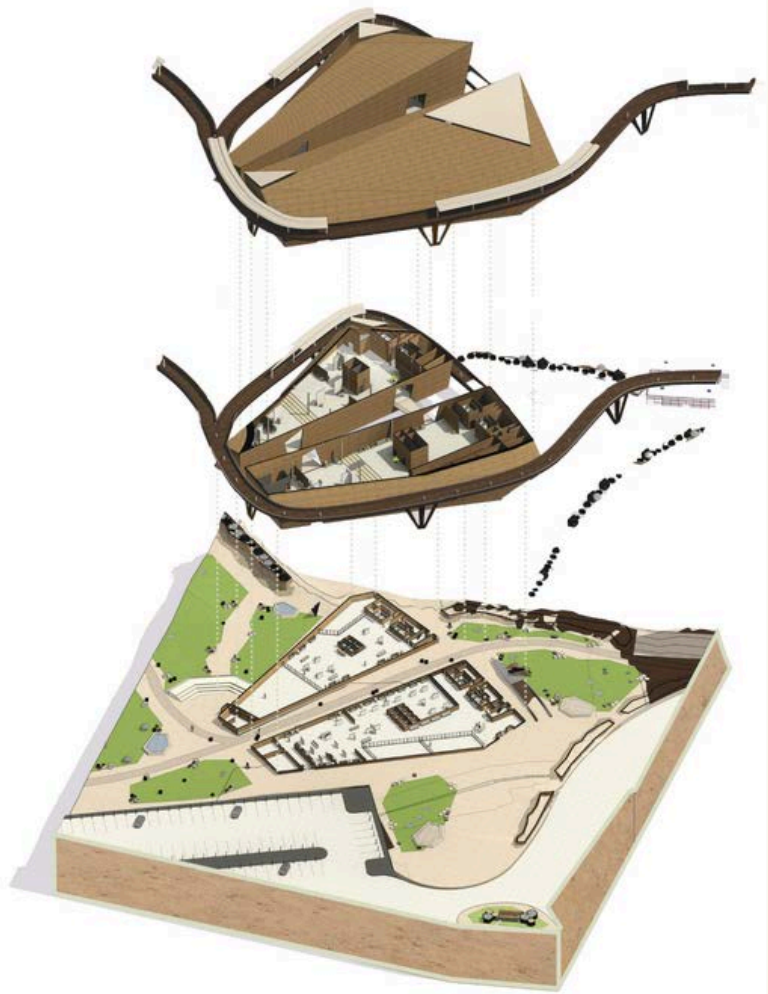


**What word of advice would you like to give to the new students?**

My advice to new students is to love what you do and have patience with the process. Architecture is a challenging yet rewarding field, and there will be moments when you feel like giving up. During those times, find the one thing that truly inspires you about the field and hold onto it. Let it be your breakthrough when stress and doubt weigh you down. Remember, growth comes from perseverance and passion.

**What do you plan after graduation?**

My ultimate goal is to open my own architecture firm, God willing. I see this as a long-term aspiration, and to prepare for it, I plan to focus on enhancing my skills through specialized courses and continuous learning. Whether it's through workshops, advanced degrees, or real-world experience, I want to ensure I'm equipped with the tools and knowledge to make a meaningful impact. For me, architecture is more than a career it's a lifelong journey of growth, exploration, and contribution.



*Interview by Dr. Afsina Abbasi*



Shahla Alluhaidan is an enthusiastic Interior Design major with a minor in Architecture at PSU. Throughout her four years at PSU, she has grown both professionally and personally, benefitting from the Interior Design department's supportive environment, which nurtures dedicated students and offers ample opportunities for development. Her design journey is fueled by a strong passion for crafting meaningful spaces, with a particular focus on furniture design. In addition to her strong academic standing in the department, Shahla has gained recognition for her participation in Salone del Mobile in Milan with PSU, where she showcased a chair design inspired by Saudi culture.

Furthermore, achieving second place in the Quba Mosque renovation competition was a proud milestone, motivating her to continually push her creative boundaries.

### **Tell us what made you choose Interior Design as your field?**

I've always been passionate about creating spaces, finding joy in transforming them into something new and meaningful, making them more functional and visually appealing and not only enhancing the quality of life for individuals but also expressing their unique personalities.

### **What are the key driving points that push you to do your best?**

The satisfaction of seeing my ideas come to life and being loved by others motivates me. Additionally, the feedback I receive from peers and mentors inspires me to continuously improve.

### **Who has been your inspiration?**

My father has been my biggest inspiration. He built his life from the ground up, and seeing his journey has taught me that patience and hard work lead to success, no matter how tough the circumstances may be.





### *Quba mosque Competition -Design*

#### **How do you approach challenges?**

I view challenges as opportunities for personal and professional growth. When faced with a problem, I take the time to analyze it thoroughly and understand it. I remain persistent and flexible, adapting my strategies as needed. By exploring different perspectives and drawing on valuable input from collaborative interactions with others, I aim to find innovative solutions. This process not only helps me overcome obstacles but also fosters a deeper understanding of the situation and enhances my skills for future challenges.

#### **What word of advice would you like to give to the new students?**

Always seek out work instead of looking for free time. You will encounter difficult times, but they are worth it in the end. Don't fear making mistakes; they can lead you to your best work.

#### **What do you plan after graduation?**

After graduation, I plan to gain experience at a design firm with a focus on sustainable practices, primarily in residential design, and ultimately hope to start my own consultancy.

