



ANNUAL

REVIEW

Architectural Association
School of Architecture
2021–22

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WELCOME

The Architectural Association (AA) is a dynamic institution whose activities and impact reach far beyond its homes in Bedford Square, London, and Hooke Park, Dorset, to locations all over the world through its dedicated students and staff, and an ever-growing community of members and alumni.

The Architectural Association is uniquely positioned to contribute to global architectural discourse; it is a school of architecture, a forum for debate in the form of its free Public Programme of events, and an international network of connections between members and alumni. This work is enriched by the school's diverse modes of cultural production, including AA Publications, and by our rural campus at Hooke Park, which hosts residential programmes and workshops within its ancient working woodland. Together, this creates a distinctive educational environment that encourages students to speculate without limitations, take risks with confidence and cultivate individual, radical research agendas.

This Annual Review celebrates the accomplishments of the AA in its 175th year. The work of the association during 2021–22 was creative, collaborative and visionary, as students and staff challenged preconceptions of the future and questioned the role of the architect within it. This year also saw the AA's first return to Bedford Square since April 2020, and we offer heartfelt thanks to all members of the

School Community – which includes students, staff and Council members – for their dedication, warmth and resilience during this transition. These qualities were never more evident than within the School's search for its next Director, which concluded in May 2022 with a vote by the School Community that was advisory to Council; as a result of this democratic process, we were delighted to welcome Ingrid Schroder into the role of Director in September of this year.

All of these achievements ensured that 2021–22 was successful and contained many moments for celebration. Going forward, the school's environmental strategies, central principles and visions for the future will be tested and developed further, ensuring that the AA continues to lead as an outstanding, independent and inclusive place to study and work.

Catherine du Toit
AA President

INTRODUCTION

As the oldest independent school of architecture in the UK, the AA retains its agility through a continual process of reinvention. This is fuelled by the school's autonomy and democracy, and its capacity for self-criticism, innovation and risk-taking. Our reputation is sustained by a commitment to providing the most comprehensive, interdisciplinary education available within the field of architecture.

The school offers a range of programmes with degree awards, including the Foundation Course (AA Foundation Award in Architecture), Experimental Programme (BA(Hons), ARB/RIBA Part 1), Diploma Programme (MArch and AA Diploma, ARB/RIBA Part 2), nine Taught Postgraduate programmes (MA, MSc, PG MArch, MFA and Taught MPhil) and a PhD Programme, as well as RIBA Part 3 courses. In addition, a range of part-time Visiting Schools located around the world and online offer new and unexpected learning opportunities. All these programmes contribute to a vibrant culture of intellectual enquiry and engagement with urgent challenges such as the climate crisis, politics and economics, equality, health, culture, developing technologies and the future of urban life. This work is enhanced by a Public Programme of lectures, symposia, book launches, exhibitions and performances, enabling the AA to connect with diverse audiences around the world and to further extend its curriculum.

In 2021–22, students and staff returned to on-site teaching, learning and debate following an academic year conducted online. Programmes throughout the school integrated teaching methods developed during remote learning with new agendas that were influenced by worldwide societal issues. We reconfigured our premises at Bedford Square and Hooke Park to allow for these aims and approaches to emerge within new modes of occupation, which enriched our academic curriculum and student and staff experiences. Our woodland campus in Dorset reopened for units and programmes to visit from London, instigating rich conversations about sustainability within our living forest laboratory. This year, the AA's permanent premises were supplemented by the Habitat showroom within the Heal's building on Tottenham Court Road, which provided a unique space for installations, reviews, performances and the Diploma Programme Honours presentations, all of which sparked critical discussions and embedded the work of the school within a major London high street.

The unit and programme projects that emerged from these agendas and spaces had a renewed sense of tactility and materiality, as students were able to re-engage with the city and the built environment as well as with workshops, labs and resources at the school. Physical experimentation, in-person workshops, archival studies, fieldwork and collaboration with local communities were evident in the work produced within Core Studies, further enhancing our engagement with the tangible world. Unit and programme trips all took place within the UK, allowing students to explore immediate contexts and local environments, resulting in unique and individual projects layered with commonalities. These projects were critiqued and commended as we reoccupied our social spaces – the terrace and the bar – as a means to initiate debate about architecture's role in society.

This year was an important moment in the history of the AA as we embarked on the search for our next Director. While this brought the AA together to discuss the future of the school, conversations oscillated in focus between the school's next steps and architectural education more broadly. This process, led by a committee formed of members of the School Community, encouraged participation from all facets of the AA and provoked spirited and sometimes challenging discussions – in the Lecture Hall, on the steps, in the corridors and within the domestic spaces of our Georgian home – that underpin our Association. The search process concluded with a vote by students, staff and Council members, resulting in the appointment of Ingrid Schroder as the Director of the School.

This Annual Review highlights the achievements that have taken place during a year in which the AA reconvened, scrutinised its ambitions for the future and reaffirmed its identity as a space of conviviality, critical thought, adaptability and activity. These principles will continue to push the school forward as a new year, under the stewardship of a new Director, begins.

Mark Morris
Head of Teaching and Learning

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REFLECTIONS



AA HISTORY

The AA was founded in 1847 by Robert Kerr and Charles Gray as a reaction against the prevailing conditions under which architects were trained. Established as a student-centred collective, the AA's aim was to challenge the traditional ways in which architecture was taught, debated and theorised at the time. The Association urged its members to reconsider the commonplace social and cultural responsibilities of the profession at large – aspirations that remain at the heart of the school today.

Originally occupying a local inn, the AA grew from an occasional night school to a self-governed educational institution with a burgeoning global reputation. By the beginning of the 20th century it had become the first full-time, professional day school for architectural study in the country, and provided one of the first specialised diplomas of its kind in Europe. In 1917 the school moved to Bedford Square, London, where it remains to this day, surrounded by some of the most prominent research institutions in the world.

The institution is still self-funded and independent, and has evolved considerably over the past century. Its alumni have made some of the most significant contributions not only to the architectural profession, but to many other cultural and scientific fields. The AA continues to foster creative potential, critical freedom and radical cultural enterprise with the same rigour and commitment as when it was founded.

Many of those who studied at the school have gone on to be influential figures not just in the field of architecture, but also in art, fashion, filmmaking, graphic design, photography and the sciences, including: Pritzker Prize winners Dame Zaha Hadid, Rem Koolhaas and Richard Rogers; Stirling Prize winners Will Alsop and David Chipperfield; and Neave Brown, recipient of the RIBA Royal Gold Medal. Other notable graduates include Ron Arad, Ben van Berkel, Susanne Bier, Elizabeth Chesterton, Nigel Coates, Sir Peter Cook, Edward Cullinan, Minnette de Silva, Carmen Dillon, Jane Drew, Mark Fisher, Kenneth Frampton, Ruth Gollancz, Steven Holl, Michael Hopkins, Patty Hopkins, Dorothy Hughes, Denys Lasdun, Judith Ledebor, Amanda Levete, Edna Mosley, Neri Oxman, Janet Street-Porter, Cedric Price, Winifred Ryle, Elisabeth Scott, Denise Scott Brown, Jaqueline Trywhitt and Michael Ventris, among many others.

ACHIEVEMENTS

AA SCHOOL

The AA is always looking to the future, with the aim to continually enhance its learning and teaching methodologies by envisioning a student experience that is unparalleled within architectural education. In 2021–22, the school embraced a variety of projects and initiatives in accordance with this ambition.

This year, policies around care and mutual respect were developed as a result of the outcomes of the AA's Dignity at Work and Study (DAWS) review, which have now been embedded in academic regulations and staff handbooks for the coming cycle. This represents a significant collective effort by our community, led by the Resolution 4 Working Group and with the input of consultants B3sixty, to articulate and uphold principles of support, respect, fairness, equity and justice that underpin every facet of the work of the school.

In order to provide additional space for academic and administrative activities, the AA leased premises from the British Museum in Montague Street. At the start of the 2022–23 academic year, a number of units and Taught Postgraduate programmes, seminar spaces, bookable rooms and some administrative offices will be housed at this new location. We also continued to forge stronger links between Bedford Square and Hooke Park, with the aim of creating greater cultural and educational continuity between these two sites through initiatives that enhance their unique qualities.

This year, the school started to develop its new Student Information System – a major project initiated to provide a sector-standard platform that integrates vast amounts of data, alongside an AA Intranet for everyday communication between students and staff.

The search for the AA's next Director was launched in autumn 2021, with a dedicated Search Committee leading this effort. The process – which included two symposia organised by the Search Committee – invited students, staff and Council members to consider future directions for creative education and to discuss our collective ambitions for the AA. This process culminated in the election and appointment of Ingrid Schroder, following a week of in-person presentations and events with five shortlisted candidates.

The AA Public Programme resumed its events on-site and in hybrid form, with engaging and thought-provoking lectures and new exhibitions in the AA Gallery helping to bring the School Community back together. A joyous graduation ceremony in Bedford Square Gardens capped a remarkable academic cycle, with an Honorary Diploma presented to David Greene in recognition of his creative, provocative, insightful and caring contributions to architectural education and discourse.

AcADEMic

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

As in-person teaching resumed at the AA during the 2021–22 academic year, staff and students across the school welcomed the renewed opportunity for exchange, debate and association to flourish between all of our units and programmes. New modes of research, analysis and design that developed during the previous year of online learning were augmented and adapted, in a continuation of the school’s pervasive spirit of reinvention and embodying a collective desire to look forwards rather than revert to the methods of the past. New on-site initiatives and forms of educational practice emerged, as the school community looked with fresh eyes at the opportunities provided by our unique premises.

The 2021–22 academic year included a phased return to face-to-face teaching in our premises at Bedford Square following the easing of Covid-19-related restrictions. A robust buildings access protocol and on-site testing facility allowed students and staff to work in a safe manner; studio instruction across the provision was delivered on-site, while components of Core Studies remained online. To accommodate most programmes in Bedford Square (the Design and Make Taught Postgraduate programme being resident at Hooke Park), many administrative departments temporarily vacated their offices or continued to work remotely to afford more room for teaching. Additionally, the AA partnered with Heal’s department store on Tottenham Court Road, taking up temporary residency in Habitat’s former flagship location, in a ‘pop-up’ arrangement that allowed us to hold large-scale exhibitions, workshops, lectures and reviews. For the 2021–22 academic year, the AA saw healthy application numbers, with many programmes attracting the highest ever level of interest from well-qualified applicants.

Foundation Course

The Foundation Course returned to the studio this year, with provision for online teaching and learning remaining in place for emergency use and as a means of disseminating, sharing and storing information. Students gained confidence over the academic year and adjusted well to a return to in-person teaching. External examiners commented on the unique nature of the programme within the broader landscape of arts Foundation courses, due in part to what they described as its ‘integration of conceptual framework, technical study and embrace of expansive artistic realms’. This year, the course enjoyed successful periods of group work, culminating in a series of built installations in Hooke Park that then formed the core of the programme’s exhibition at *Projects Review 2022*. Application numbers remain healthy, with the programme continuing to attract UK, EU and international students. Student numbers increased this year by 30% to 28, with forecasts indicating a continued gentle increase in enrolment for future cohorts.

Experimental Programme

Experimental units explored a range of topics through ambitious briefs, and unit trips focused on sites within the UK. Several units dealt with the climate emergency and conflicts around resource and wealth disparity, while others looked to address challenges and opportunities posed by a post-lockdown urban environment by rethinking high streets, civic spaces and community amenities. Agendas also focused on housing at a range of scales and building typologies transformed by technology and material systems. An exceptional range of guest jurors from around the globe were invited to review work and extend the discussions raised by unit projects.

Diploma Programme

Diploma units examined homecomings and diasporas, leisure and live-work spaces, farms and food production, sea-level rises and pollution, public and private identities, atmospheres and atlases. Special workshops, guest speakers, a film festival and debates sprang from and enriched the Diploma Programme as a whole. Juries held in-person rekindled the robust exchange of ideas that typifies the AA School, and Honours projects were shared in the AA in Habitation residency at Heal’s, which provided the space for hundreds of students and tutors to engage with the work.

• [Click for more information regarding Academic Programmes](#)

EXPERIMENTAL UNITS

-
- 1 I will do my utmost
Jon Charles Lopez, Francesco Zuddas with Shumi Bose
-
- 2 Demonstration Neighbourhood
Verity-Jane Keefe, Julia King with Sophie Handler
-
- 3 Creatures of the Future Forest +3
Ricardo de Ostos, Nicholas Zembashi
-
- 4 Who's on What?
Akil Scafe-Smith, Seth Amani Scafe-Smith
-
- 5 Dread-nought
Ryan Dillon, David Greene
-
- 6 Out of the Loop:
Pitching for Alternatives
Ioana Man, Ana Nicolaescu
-
- 7 On the Beach
Marko Milovanovic, Fearghus Raftery
-
- 8 Forms for Collective Living:
Artefacts for Block Disorder
Nuria Álvarez Lombardero,
Francisco González de Canales
-
- 9 Messy Transition
Ryan Cook, Samuel Little
-
- 10 Half
Valentin Bontjes van Beek, Winston Hampel
-
- 11 It's Not Easy Being Green
Matilde Cassani, Silvana Taher
-

-
- 12 Low-Def Space
Taneli Mansikkamäki, Max Turnheim
with Emma Voisin Isdahl
-
- 13 Culture Arc
Catherine Pease, Tatiana von Preussen,
Jessica Reynolds
-
- 14 Swing Time
Amandine Kastler, Aram Mooradian, Christopher Pierce
-
- 15 CITY/HALL:
Collective Equipment for Living
Xristina Argyros, Ryan Neiheiser
-
- 16 Caution
Bollards in Motion
Eleanor Dodman, Selim Halulu
-
- 17 Dreaming Domesticities,
Sheltering Speculations
Mark E Breeze, Katie (Kyriaki) Kasabalis
-
- 18 Metamorphosis
Viviana Muscettola, Arya Safavi, Nhan Vo
-

DIPLOMA UNITS

-
- 1 I would prefer not to
Miraj Ahmed, Martin Jameson
-
- 2 The Course of Empire
Nana Biamah-Ofosu, Bushra Mohamed
-
- 3 The Tenet of Ecology
Jonas Lundberg, Andrew Yau with Kayu Chan
-
- 4 Climate Peace: Planetary Imaginaries
John Palmesino, Ann-Sofi Rönnskog
-
- 5 Public Porous Placed! Exploring
Openness through Boundaries
Gabu Heindl, Boštjan Vuga
-
- 6 Visibility
Maria Fedorchenko
-
- 7 Fluid Territories:
On Rights and Spaces
Platon Issaias, Hamed Khosravi
-
- 8 Eureka! initiative
David McAlmont, Hila Shemer
-
- 9 No Money, No Cry
Stefan Laxness, Antoine Vaxelaire
-
- 10 Readjusting the Random
Carlos Villanueva Brandt
-
- 11 The Landscape of Excess and Void
Shin Egashira
-
- 12 Unnatural Selection:
Reorienting the Relationship
between Nature and Culture
Inigo Minns, Manijeh Verghese
-
- 13 Material Subjects
Merve Anil, George Massoud
-
- 14 A Kind of Loving:
Rethinking the Architecture of
Social Housing
Pier Vittorio Aureli, Maria Shéhérazade Giudici
-
- 15 99 Homes
Lawrence Barth, Lucy Styles
-
- 16 Unit Vacant
-
- 17 Latent Territories:
From the Ground Up
Theo Sarantoglou Lalis, Dora Sweijd
-
- 18 Debris
Aude-Line Duliere, James Westcott with Rotor
-
- 19 Thousands of Tiny Little Sexes
Brendon Carlin, James Kwang-Ho Chung
-
- 20 The Civic Entrepreneur
Selva Gürdoğan, Jonathan Robinson,
Gregers Tang Thomsen
-
- 21 Status Anomalous
Didier Fiúza Faustino, Anna Muzychak
-

TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

The AA's nine Taught Postgraduate programmes and PhD Programme continue to develop an ever-growing portfolio of innovative research projects and urgent interdisciplinary and global agendas. The courses provide advanced studies for students with prior academic and professional experience. The school offers MA/MSc (12 months), MArch (16 months), MFA and Taught MPhil (18 months) degrees for a range of expertise from sustainable design, housing, urban planning, and history and theory, to robotics, emerging technologies, performance, landscape and design through making. The AA is a Partner Institution and Affiliated Research Centre of The Open University (OU), UK. The OU is the awarding body for research degrees (PhD) at the AA.

MArch

Architecture and Urbanism (DRL)

The DRL programme pursues adaptive and enabling architectures that can evolve and address the pressing issues of today. The programme continues to be recognised as a world leader in postgraduate education, with invitations to share the Lab's work in international exhibitions and conference presentations. The programme was selected as one of the top postgraduate architecture departments by the committee of the BAM World Ranking of 2022, placing in the top ten for the fifth consecutive year and first among non-university departments.

This year, DRL staff gave more than 40 public lectures in conferences and at academic institutions and museums. Two new course masters joined the programme in 2021: Nassia Inglez, founder of Studio INI, an experimental practice that couples rigorous design and scientific research with public engagement in immersive and experiential installations; and Nerma Cridge, who received her PhD from the AA in 2012 and who has more than 20 years' experience in academia and practice. Programme Head Theodore Spyropoulos was invited to create a new work in dialogue with the life and practice of the late Yona Friedman for an exhibition in spring 2022, produced by Le Quadrilatère – Centre d'art de Beauvais. A DRL book titled *Behaviour* will be published to disseminate the research and work to a larger audience.

MSc/MArch

Design and Make

Design through making remains the focus in our woodland campus. Students lived on-site at Hooke for the duration of the 2021–22 academic year, and MSc and MArch students collaborated on the design and construction of a new Field Station at Hooke Park, situated beyond the campus and within the forest, which will provide a space for students, local walkers and forest workers to learn, shelter and work 'in the field'.

For the project, students built a large space-frame roof using small diameter roundwood – normally a waste byproduct of timber harvesting at Hooke – as well as a timber frame enclosure using an innovative hybrid of glulam

and cross-laminated timber. Bespoke tools were developed as part of the design research for the Field Station, including the robotic vision system used to turn multiple unique small diameter roundwood branches into components for the space-frame, and a hydraulic clamping tool to accelerate glulam forming.

MSc/MArch

Emergent Technologies and Design (EmTech)

EmTech investigates new synergies of architecture, engineering and ecology to produce knowledge that is geared towards new production paradigms. This year, the programme's collaboration with Hassell Studio culminated with the opening of the Re-Emerge pavilion in Bedford Square in autumn 2021, which went on to win an Architizer A+ Award in the Architecture and Collaboration category. To mark the opening of the pavilion, EmTech organised a symposium at the AA on the subject of sustainable wood construction, zero-waste practices and the upcycling of construction materials. The programme organised an alumni event in March 2022 at the AA in Habitation residency at Heal's, and this year opened its recurring Master Class lecture series to the public, joined by experts from academia and practice. The Visiting School DLAB, led by Programme Head Elif Erdine and Studio Master Milad Showkatbakhsh at the AA in late summer 2022, concluded with the installation of a large-scale bent timber prototype in the New Yard at Bedford Square. Erdine and Showkatbakhsh continued to publish scientific papers at peer-reviewed conferences, and both contributed to the *Computational Design Next 10* and *Computational Design Next 11* symposia.

MA

History and Critical Thinking (HCT)

History and Critical Thinking interrogates the contemporary from a historical, critical and transdisciplinary point of view. The programme considers specific histories as valid sites of investigation, exploring the ways in which they negotiate sources, establish paradigms and appropriate voices to shape our conceptions and practices of the built environment. This year, Programme Head Marina Lathouri organised the HCT and PhD series 'Languages of History' with William Orr, with the participation of architectural and urban historians, critics, philosophers and architects who contributed a diversity of voices and expertise. Students participated in discussions hosted by the Foundation Le Corbusier in Paris and Arc en Rêve Centre of Architecture in Bordeaux, France. In their individual research projects, students focused on specific historical evidence to examine material, political and social demarcations, in order to rethink histories and posit architecture as entangled with other critical spatial practices and alternative forms of knowledge production and dissemination. Situated at the intersection of politics, historiography, decolonisation, material ethics, state policies, environmental justice and feminist theories, students' theses emphasised the critical mode of writing, the subversive role of history and the accountability of research.

MA/MArch

Housing and Urbanism (HU)

Housing and Urbanism enables students from architecture and related disciplines to understand and address the complexities of urban transformation, strengthening their professional, scholarly and critical skills. While design learning forms the core of the programme, its curriculum also deepens students' grasp of urban politics and practicalities. Students work across multiple scales, from building detail to metropolitan vision, linking architecture, politics and a pragmatic understanding of the urban process. While London remains the primary learning laboratory of the programme, this year HU expanded its UK study areas, exploring other cities such as Bristol, Manchester and Cambridge. Partnerships continued with cities and universities abroad, notably in Eastern Europe and Latin America. Under the research theme 'Housing +', students were invited to participate in a spectrum of discussions responding to current global uncertainties, from health and wellbeing to environmental change, poverty and evolving economic patterns. This year, the programme also initiated a new design research area focusing on adaptive reuse. In each of these areas, HU investigates current shifts in housing design that improve the capacity of our cities to support collaborative, democratic practices and broaden access to services and opportunities.

MSc/MArch

Landscape Urbanism (LU)

The Landscape Urbanism programme explores the role that design and designers can play when confronted with the processes, landscapes and territories of planetary urbanisation and the crises they have triggered. This year, the programme continued its contribution to the development of a global Green New Deal (GND) and other environmental justice movements such as degrowth and the People's Agreement of Cochabamba. As part of this agenda, Programme Head Jose Alfredo Ramirez was selected as a guest editor of *Architectural Design (AD)* magazine for an issue focusing on 'Green New Deal Landscapes', published in January 2022. Design Tutor Clara Olóriz Sanjuán led the development of 'The Future of an Automotive Heartland in Birmingham', working with the Common Wealth think tank; she also lectured at Harvard Graduate School of Design and at Stanford University. Tutors Carlotta Olivari and Daniel Kiss were part of 'NO CITY', an international workshop involving universities from the Netherlands and Italy to discuss aspects of planetary urbanisation. Programme staff delivered lectures on the work of LU at institutions worldwide, including at the University of Westminster, the European School of Humanities, Fundación la Caixa and the Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona.

MFA

Spatial Performance and Design (AAIS)

AAIS engages with alternative methods of collaboration between multiple creative professions. The programme realised a range of festivals and events throughout the year, including at the AA's residency at Heal's in London in March 2022 and at the SWG3 Performance Centre in Glasgow in June 2022. During the past academic year, Programme Head Theo Lorenz and Research and Development Lead Tanja Siems published a number of books and articles, including 'Cooking up ideas in "PlanerIn"' in *Urban Design Magazine*; their coedited publication */people*, highlighting the methodologies of AAIS, will be published by Marmelade in June 2023. David McAlmont finalised *Permissible Beauty*, an AHRC-funded multi-portrait project at the University of Leicester Research Centre for Museums and Galleries, and Mona Camille completed the stage and costume design for *Promised Land* by Elisabeth Gunawan and Saksi Bisou. As codirectors of GesamtAtelier, Kyriaki Naseoula and Argyris Angeli premiered a new interdisciplinary piece titled *Loom* at Megaron Athens Concert Hall. Heiko Kalmbach received funding from Stiftung Kunstfond to begin a film project titled *STAY HUNGRY*, and Hila Shemer participated in several academic conferences and symposia as well as curating the architectural exhibition *Feild* in July 2022. Renaud Wisser created *La.byrinth*, an interdisciplinary stage production in collaboration with sculptor Marie Lelouche for Newcastle-based dance company Fertile Ground.

• [Click for more information regarding Taught Postgraduate programmes](#)

MSc/MArch

Sustainable Environmental Design (SED)

The SED programme delves into real-life projects spanning a broad range of climates, building types and urban morphologies, targeting the creation of carbon-neutral futures and promoting inhabitant comfort, health and wellbeing. After a year of operating remotely, our return to the AA premises provided a unique opportunity for SED to measure, monitor and analyse the school's buildings and outdoor spaces. Later in the year, this learning was implemented through a design project for local authority housing and communal facilities on a London site just south of the river Thames. With more than 30 students working on individual research projects for the MSc and MArch dissertation, there was both variety and shared emphasis within the topics addressed. Many projects were set in cities and climates in India; others focused on Brazil, China, Thailand, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as London. Research themes addressed this year include affordable housing, a net-zero carbon cyclical economy, the adaptive reuse of abandoned buildings, designs for outdoor living and climate change, and learning from vernacular architecture. A book of building case studies, delayed by the pandemic, is now nearing completion.

Taught MPhil

Architecture and Urban Design (Projective Cities)

Projective Cities is an interdisciplinary research and design programme that examines multi-scalar questions arising at the intersection of architecture, urban design and planning. This year, thesis projects investigated a variety of sites and problematics, with a particular focus on community-led initiatives as well as models of co-operative housing. Student dissertations presented research and design proposals in the cities of London and Harbin, and the rural territories of Spain. The programme continued working with stakeholders, municipal authorities and local universities in Athens and Barcelona, concluding a three-year research cycle investigating 'Forms of Collective Living'. Projective Cities also continued its collaboration with the Department of Architecture of the University of Cyprus, working on a research and design project on the Municipality of Kessariani in Athens. The projects – which focus on the development of collective equipments, new housing typologies and landscape interventions – will lead to a publication, a one-day conference and an exhibition in Kessariani City Hall. The programme organised numerous public events this year, including the Practices and Pedagogies lecture series as part of the AA Public Programme; Course Master and Design Studio Lead Hamed Khosravi also co-curated the exhibition *Zoe Zenghelis: Fields, Fragments, Fictions* at the Carnegie Museum of Art.

PhD Programme

The PhD programme provides a platform for the development of research that investigates a broad range of subjects related to the built environment, as well as interrogating architecture as a form of knowledge. In 2021–22, the programme organised the 'Domesticity and its Discontents' seminar as a series of open online events that drew a significant audience both from within and beyond the school. The programme also presented the student-led *Algorithmic Controversies* symposium, an occasion that highlighted the importance of the students' contribution to school-wide debate. The programme was awarded a renewal of its Affiliated Research Centre Agreement with the Open University (OU) in May 2021. Three new students enrolled on the PhD Programme at the beginning of the academic year, having previously submitted their research proposals and supervisor nominations for registration with the OU; all of these students passed their upgrade review at the end of the year. Seven viva examinations were held, all with successful outcomes, with a further three theses submitted.

Professional Practice

The central theme of the Part 3 seminar programme and examination is ethical practice. We discuss and define the term 'professionalism', and consider how it applies to contemporary practice.

The autumn 2021 and spring 2022 seminar programmes were attended by 107 young professionals seeking registration as an architect. Having delivered the course entirely online during the previous year, both seminar programmes in 2021–22 were held in a hybrid format, and this did not hinder debate between participants and guests. Talks and debates that allow participants to offer critical accounts of their shared experiences within practice are fundamental to the programme; this year, a notable example included one delivered by the Section of Architectural Workers union.

The seminar series also included sessions on law, planning and procurement, and other seminars and workshops explored ethics, entrepreneurial business and management, intellectual property and the value of ideas, as well as conveying knowledge of design management. Each of the seminar programmes concluded with talks by guest speakers, including Flora Samuel, Michál Cohen, Helen Evans and Sanaa Shaikh, all of whom conveyed lessons learned during their careers – emphasising the need to be resolute and the importance of listening and leadership skills.

The written and oral examinations were conducted online. Of 111 examination candidates, 42 passed in autumn 2021 and 46 in 2022, representing a combined pass rate of 80%. Of the 88 candidates who passed, 37 are female, 51 are male and 28 are AA alumni.



AA Foundation Award in Architecture	BA (Hons) (ARB/RIBA Part 1)				MArch / AA Diploma (ARB/RIBA Part 2)		MSc	MA	PG MArch	MFA	Taught MPhil	PhD
FHEQ Level 4	FHEQ Level 5	FHEQ Level 6		FHEQ Level 7								FHEQ Level 8
120CR	Year 1 – 120CR	Year 2 – 120CR	Year 3 – 120CR	Year 4 – 120CR	Year 5 – 120CR	12 Months – 180CR	12 Months – 180CR	16 Months – 180CR	18 Months – 240CR	18 Months – 240CR	36 Months	
Studio Practice 60CR	Studio 60CR	Studio 60CR	Studio 70CR	Studio 70CR	Studio 80CR	Core Studio / Thesis 110CR	Core Studio / Thesis 110CR	Core Studio / Thesis 110CR	Core Studio / Thesis 150CR	Core Studio / Thesis 150CR		
Technique 10CR	CMS 10CR	CMS 10CR				Core Module 1 20CR	Core Module 1 20CR					
Technique 10CR	CMS 10CR	CMS 10CR				Core Module 2 20CR	Core Module 2 20CR					
Technique 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	Core Module 3 20CR	Core Module 3 20CR					
Contextual 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	HTS 10CR	Re. Methods 0CR	Re. Methods 0CR					
Contextual 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR				Core Module 4 20CR	Core Module 4 20CR	Core Module 4 20CR	
Contextual 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR	ETS 10CR	Electives 10CR	Electives 10CR	Electives 10CR	Electives 10CR	Electives 10CR	Electives 10CR	
			PP1 10CR	Elective 10CR	PP2 10CR							
		Intermediate Award: Higher Education Certificate (120CR+ at FHEQ Level 5 and 6)	Intermediate Award: Non-Honours Degree (300CR+ at FHEQ Level 5 and 6)	Intermediate Award: Post Graduate Certificate (120CR+ at FHEQ Level 7)								
		MArch to PhD by Design Pathway										
		BA(Hons) to MSc, MA and MFA Pathway										
						MSc	MA			MFA		
						FHEQ Level 7						
						12 Months – 180CR	12 Months – 180CR		18 Months – 240CR			

Visiting School Global Programmes

The AA Visiting School (AAVS) continued to travel the globe, touching down in locations from Panama and Stuttgart to Sydney and Seoul. For the first time in two years, most of our programmes ran on-site and in-person, returning to the original AAVS format which emphasises engagement with local communities and location-based conversations. Central to each is the idea that experimental, new and provocative forms of architecture are best learned by doing. Cities and remote locations worldwide provided the context for a wide range of new and existing short, part-time experimental programmes throughout the 2021–22 cycle. A programme structure was created to enhance the communication between different Visiting Schools and to encourage knowledge-sharing between regions and agendas.

Two key objectives were achieved within the programme this year. First, significant work was undertaken to create a strong network of AAVS Programme Heads and Tutors. This included meeting with the Programme Heads on a more regular basis through monthly AA Global Summits, which brought together different AAVS programmes to discuss relevant contemporary issues, pedagogical approaches and shared opportunities. Second, mechanisms were introduced to provide a more robust monitoring system for all programmes, as well as to support the securing of alternative funding streams. This will continue as a primary ambition for growth in 2022–23.

Summer School

This year, the AA Summer School: *About a New Togetherness* was conducted in a hybrid format, with seven units held in-person at Bedford Square and two operating entirely online, promoting accessibility and enabling the programme to have a broader global reach. To make the programme more affordable for students worldwide, early enrolment discounts, partial bursaries and a full scholarship were offered.

The Summer School programme was organised around a central theme of togetherness, and units explored new modes of engagement, community practices and alternative ways of connecting with one another. The intention was to create opportunities for students and professionals at all levels to engage with global leaders in their fields. An international group of tutors (Khaled Al-Bashir, Jumanah Bawazir, Albane Duvillier, Elliot Rogosin, Marco Veneri, Lisa Chan, Yushi Li, Arshija Vij, Serra Ozdemir, Jenn Leung, Chiara Toscani, Claudia Nitsche, Emma Pfeiffer, Emma Kaufmann LaDuc and Davis Richardson) came together to address a wide range of contemporary agendas, accompanied by an extensive public programme of in-person and online events.

Semester Programme

The AA Semester Programme resumed in spring 2022, following a two-year pause necessitated by the travel restrictions imposed during the pandemic. The Spring Semester Programme 2022 welcomed 11 students from institutions worldwide, including the University of Hong Kong, the University of Pennsylvania and the American University of Beirut. The programme brief focused on Riga, Latvia and the greenfield high-speed rail infrastructure project Rail Baltica, which aims to integrate Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland into the European rail network. For the first time, a studio-only option was offered to those students interested in joining the design studio but not the AA Core Studies courses (History and Theory Studies, and Communication and Media Studies) typically also completed as part of the Semester Programme.

Visiting School Locations

- AA Semester Programme (London)
- AA Summer School (London)
- BambooLab (Indonesia)
- Barcelona
- Berlin
- DLAB (London)
- Khartoum
- Los Angeles
- Luxembourg
- Maeda Hooke Park (Hooke Park, UK)
- Mars (Online)
- Melbourne
- Mexico City
- Nanotourism (Vienna)
- New York
- Panama
- Patagonia (Chile)
- Salta (Argentina)
- San Francisco
- São Paulo
- Seoul
- Stuttgart
- Sydney
- Terrain Lab (Sicily)
- Toronto
- Transborder Landscapes (Mexico–US)
- Zürich

RESEARCH

AA RESIDENCE

The AA Residence is a cultural platform to research and develop ideas and forms of practice at the intersection of architecture, art, technology, policy and design. It provides a space for innovative ideas that can radically change the ways we conceptualise, build and shape the future. Comprised of labs, the AA Residence aims to support individuals, projects and practices, and to enable the emergence of new forms of research. In 2021–22, the Ground Lab and the Wood Lab continued to develop their research agendas and articulate responses to urgent global issues.

Ground Lab

Ground Lab is a research design initiative that engages with the planetary environmental crisis facing humanity, and explores how design practices can provide the knowledge and expertise to imagine alternative worldviews. Led by Jose Alfredo Ramirez and Clara Olóriz Sanjuán, the Lab collaborates with UK think tanks and organisations worldwide to visualise and politicise the spatial impact of policy-making, as well as pursuing the development of techniques that offer alternatives to standard design practices.

This year, Ground Lab worked alongside the Common Wealth think tank to create a vision for a more sustainable future for Birmingham, one of the automotive heartlands of the UK. The project creates a sequence of visuals to demonstrate how the automotive industry could be transformed by strengthening workers' rights and privileging electrified public transport production in order to develop high-quality and clean urban landscapes. The visuals are organised in three formats: industrial transformations that highlight leisure and training spaces for workers; street designs based on multimodal mobility and green infrastructure; and regional network plans that enhance cycling, train and tram networks. In parallel to this work, Ground Lab has also been commissioned by the Inter-American Development Bank to develop national and regional infographics, in the form of an atlas, to describe climate risk for informal settlements in Chile. The atlas will be a tool for policymakers in the region, enabling them to take decisions and set priorities according to how conditions such as drought, flooding, landscape fragmentation, soil erosion, pollution, deforestation and changes in land use affect the most vulnerable communities.

Wood Lab

The Wood Lab is a research initiative based at our Dorset woodland campus. The Lab is generously funded by John Makepeace, who, as director of the Parnham Trust (1982–2001), founded the Hooke Park site now occupied by the AA and which continues to function as an immersive laboratory for architectural research.

Hooke Park, as a working woodland, is the ideal location for large-scale experiments in timber architecture and research. Wood Lab is well positioned to interrogate and innovate, from the scale of the sapling to that of the building, by utilising the forest as the main supplier of all timber material. The Lab works in collaboration with leading practitioners, and a central ambition of its research is to explore long-term forestry strategies for Hooke Park. The aim is to align the evolution of the forest with the transformation of the campus by reflecting on how decision-making in forestry can be measured in decades, if not centuries.

Towards the end of the year, the Lab welcomed two newly appointed forestry research fellows, Catherine Byrne and Jeremy Ralph, who will be working closely with the team at Hooke to develop future woodland strategies as part of Wood Lab.

Preparations were also made this year for a symposium, titled *A Forest Laboratory*, which will take place at the AA in December 2022. This event will bring together leading thinkers for a day of presentations and discussions, with conversations connecting forestry, ecology, material science, engineering and architectural experimentation. The symposium will frame the ambitions and agendas of the AA Wood Lab, and intends to inform the ongoing development of a publication that documents and reflects on the remarkable architectural projects built at Hooke Park.

CONNECTIONS

PARTNERSHIPS AND SPONSORS

While the AA is fiercely independent, the work that we have produced over the course of the year would not be possible without the connections we make with partners and sponsors whose generosity is without limit. These supporters emerge in a variety of ways, and have provided us with spaces to work in, laboratories to experiment within and symposia to debate our ideas and visions.

This year, in partnership with the Korean Institute of Architects (KIA), the AA launched the third in a series of Global Forums which provide a space to learn, share and discuss architectural ideas and initiatives in a local context, both online and through on-site meetings, lectures and workshops. These forums consist of networks of AA alumni, students, staff, members and Visiting Schools, and offer support to our community around the world. The AA Global Forum in Korea was held in November 2021 as part of KIA's annual Korea Architecture and Culture Festival, and comprised two exhibitions including the work of AA alumni, as well as the Forum event itself which presented roundtable discussions exploring cohousing and apartment design in Korea and worldwide.

Following this event, two Visiting School programmes were held in Seoul in collaboration with Yonsei University, Korea. The Global Forum also provided a strong basis for our successful application to the British Council Exploratory Grant for a UK-Korea Virtual Academic Collaboration, valued at £12,000. The grant was awarded for a project proposed by AA Diploma 19 tutor James Kwang-Ho Chung and AA alumnus and VS Programme Head Jooeun Sung, titled 'Piloting Relay Learning: Developing New Forms of Design, Exchange and Collaboration Inspired by Seoul's "(Anti)Designers"'. This joint pilot programme between the

AA and Yonsei University will enable the development and testing of a new virtual teaching methodology, through a cross-continental collaboration between a group of academics, students and design professionals.

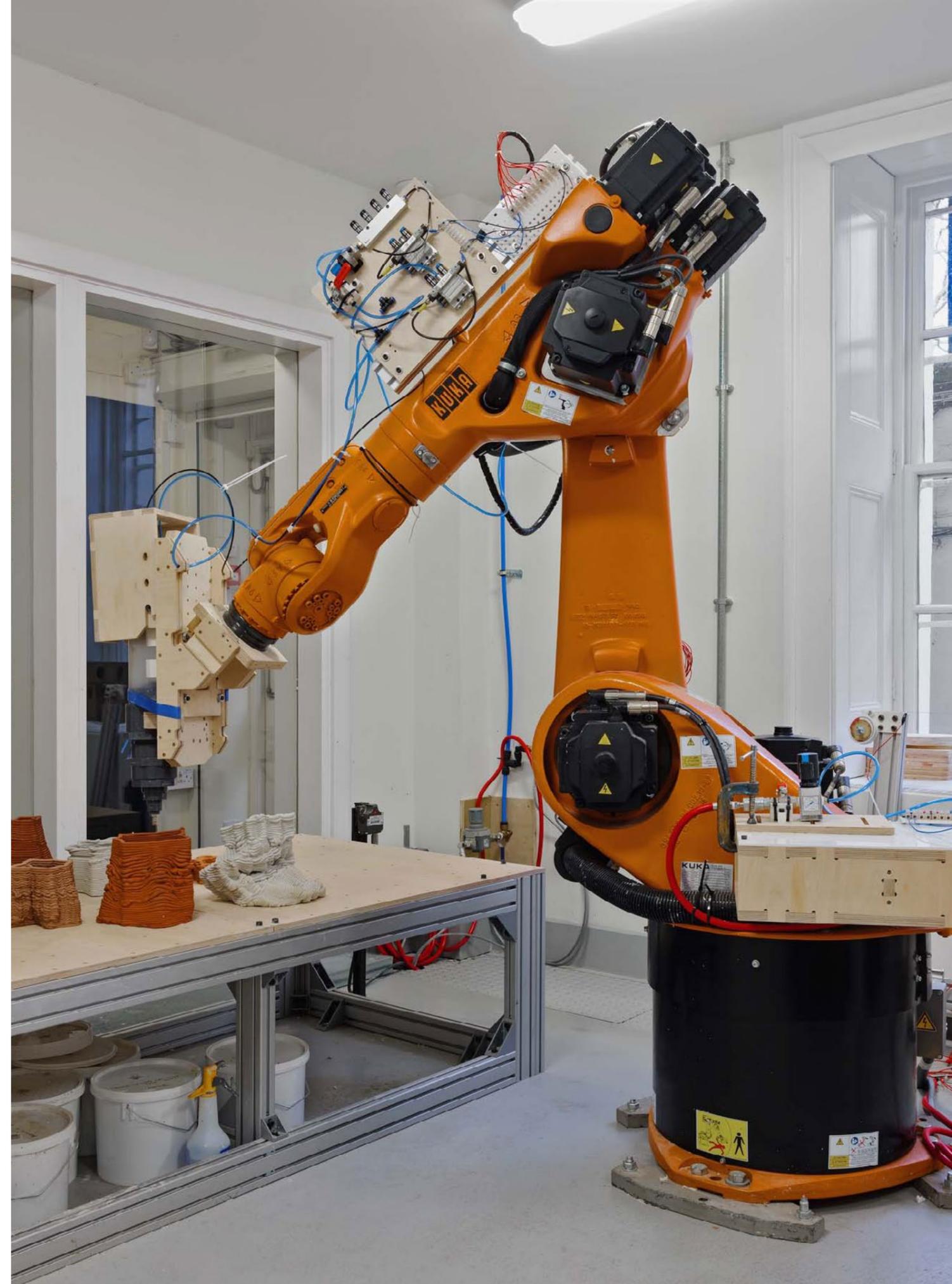
The Visiting School programme in Panama received a project grant of £6,875 after completing a Due Diligence Assessment (DDA) by the British Embassy in Panama. This assessment enables the AA to apply to project grants offered by British Embassies around the world for the next three years. The programme, which focused on transforming the construction and architecture sectors in the country by promoting sustainable practices, vernacular architecture and female leadership, also partnered with Isthmus University, Azulik, Taoma, IMKM and Roth Architecture.

The AA Summer School Unit 5, titled (If) The Whole Street is a House and led by Lisa Chan and Yushi Li, was sponsored by Malin+Goetz. In addition to this, in partnership with the Richard Saltoun Gallery, the Unit secured the use of a gallery space that acted as a pop-up studio in addition to their workspace in Bedford Square. These two spaces were instrumental in the Unit's aim to propose new visions for London's high streets.

Partnerships, sponsors and collaborators for the year included:

American University of Beirut
Autodesk
AZULIK
Baukulturjahr 2021
Centro Universitário Belas Artes de São Paulo
British Council
British Embassy in Panama
British Institute in East Africa (BIEA)
BuroHappold Engineering
Caixa d'Enginyers
California College of the Arts (CCA), San Francisco
Consejo Profesional de Arquitectura y Urbanismo (CPAU)
Diseñadores Argentinos Asociados (DARA)
De Stefano
Deer Designs
Diseñadores Nacionales Asociados (DINA)
Dresden Marketing
EDGE Design Group
FDL
Geoversity
Goethe-Institut
Gray Area Center for the Arts
Hassell Studio
University of Hong Kong
ICON
IM/KM Architecture and Planning
ISKAN
Isthmus. Escuela de Arquitectura y Diseño de América Latina y el Caribe
Korean Institute of Architects
KulturRegion Stuttgart
Kunsthalle Zürich
Luxembourg Center for Architecture
Maeda Corporation
Malin+Goetz
Ministerio de Diseño
Network of Regional Centers and Stations (RCER UC), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Vicerrectoría de Investigación, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Oeuvre Nationale de Secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte
One Click LCA
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Revista PLOT
Richard Saltoun Gallery

Rolex
Roth Architecture
Rubner Group
Stuttgart State Academy of Art and Design
Taoma Architecture
The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL
TU Berlin
Universidad Tec de Monterrey
Université du Luxembourg
University of Melbourne
University of Pennsylvania
University of Sydney
Velux
Walter P Moore
Wideprint
Woodbury University School of Architecture
Wörthersee Tourismus
Yonsei University



PUBLIC

PUBLIC PROGRAMME

For 175 years, the AA has been at the forefront of architectural debates, public talks, exhibitions and open juries that raise questions and influence change both within architecture and for society at large. The AA Public Programme is an ever-evolving collection of lectures, exhibitions, workshops, symposia, open seminars, talks, performances and other special projects. Events are free and open to the public, bringing together audiences locally in the AA Lecture Hall and Gallery, and globally in the virtual realm through Global Forum sessions, online events and the AA YouTube channel.

6	Lecture series across the year
58	Lectures
9	Symposia
9	Exhibitions
2	Open Juries
3	Global Forums

For 2021–22, the Public Programme continued to be held largely online while Covid-19 testing remained in place as the school community returned to Bedford Square. A series of symposia enabled us to trial hybrid participation both on-site and online, with exhibitions returning to in-person installations across various spaces in Bedford Square and through AA in Habitation, our springtime residency in the former Habitat showroom within the Heal's building on Tottenham Court Road.

Lectures and Symposia

The 2021–22 AA Public Programme began with *A Celebration of the Life and Work of Mark Cousins*, who was Head of History and Theory at the AA and sadly passed away in 2020. A record number of symposia followed across the year, celebrating the practice of historic figures like Reyner Banham on his 100th birthday or covering urgent and timely concerns such as how to engage with *Extreme Environments*, research into *(Re)Building with Stone: Ashlars, Spolias, Quarries and Cities*, different methods through which we can think about diversity through *Exposing Barriers in Architecture Education from a FAME Perspective*, and strategies to engage with *Document Fever: Encounters with the Architecture of the *Colonial Architecture Archive*. In addition, the Search Committee organised two events to engage the school community in a wider discussion around the future of education with *RE: AA* in Term 1 and the *Educating Creativity* symposium in Term 2.

The New Models lecture series continued to invite practitioners to suggest new strategies that disrupt existing systems and promote a more equitable society, with speakers including Esther Choi, Sumita Singha, Afterparti, Cave Bureau and Black Females in Architecture. This sat alongside the *Conversations from Venice* lecture series that invited pairs of curators from the different national pavilions at the Venice Architecture Biennale to address practices of care, mutuality, context, collaboration and above all

togetherness in Term 1. This was followed by a series organised by the Projective Cities programme to celebrate a range of Practices and Pedagogies in Term 2.

Student group AAction returned with their lecture series *Who's Counting?*, which operated at the intersection of issues relating to climate, race and gender. The series invited a range of speakers including Thein Sowrirajan, Pankaj Vir Gupta and Javed Ahmed. As the year gathered momentum, students also organised events such as *Partygate* to look at how revelry can help construct solidarity and resilience in the face of political disarray and discontent.

Over the summer, the programme continued alongside the AA Summer School: *About a New Togetherness*, with a series of lectures by *ruangrupa*, *Array Collective* and *Muslim Women in Architecture*, as well as lunchtime talks with practitioners nominated by each of the Summer School units. The summer programme began with *AT THE END OF THE END OF HSTRY*, an event organised by Shumon Basar, who brought together a range of cultural figures for a set of interdisciplinary conversations around how change keeps on changing.

Lecture Series

- AA in Habitation
- AAction: *Who's Counting?*
- About a New Togetherness*
- Conversations on Venice*
- New Models*
- Practices and Pedagogies*

Symposia

- A Celebration of the Life and Work of Mark Cousins*
- Algorithmic Controversies: Dialogues towards an Unveiling of Architectural Agency*
- Architecture for Extreme Environments*
- Document Fever: Encounters with the Architecture of the *Colonial Architectural Archive*
- Educating Creativity*
- Exposing the Barriers in Architecture Education from a FAME Perspective*
- RE:AA*
- (Re)Building with Stone: Ashlars, Spolias, Quarries and Cities*
- So Far...Practice in Times of Climate Crisis*
- What Happens on Your 100th Birthday?*

Exhibitions

Exhibitions this year took the form of large-scale installations. The Emergent Technologies and Design (EmTech) programme collaborated with Hassell Studio to construct *Re-Emerge*, a pavilion on the corner of Bedford Square that used recycled timber to reflect on frameworks of production in a world with limited resources that cannot infinitely sustain current rates of growth. The pavilion revived the tradition of building on Bedford Square as a collaboration between an academic programme at the school and partners from the world of practice, to test ideas at scale and imagine new possibilities. This material theme continued in the Front Members' Room with an installation titled *Reclaimed Chaos* by recent AAIS graduate Elyssa Sykes Smith, using wood salvaged from construction sites during lockdown.

In Term 2, the AA took up residency at the former Habitat showroom within the Heal's Building on Tottenham Court Road. The space, called AA in Habitation, hosted the *Momentum of Light* exhibition of photographic prints and lightboxes by Iwan Baan with Francis Kéré that was commissioned by Zumtobel Group. The show explored the interplay between natural sunlight, vernacular architecture and everyday life in the West African nation of Burkina Faso. Learning from the forms, textures and tectonic qualities of sunlight, this set of photographs encouraged us to design light and its effects on space as part of the architectural experience. AA in Habitation also hosted *Critical Space*, a show that sought to position the AA Archive as a site of critical reflection, challenge and speculation. It explored ways in which archives are complicit in the construction of memory, the formation of identities, the framing of ideologies and the projection of knowledge systems.

Back in Bedford Square, the AA Gallery was temporarily used as a teaching space, with intermittent installations of student work in various forms. Communication and Media Studies students showcased their experiments with stone, working with Juliet Haysom, in the show *Productive Drawing, Working Stone*, while Kathleen Gagnier from Experimental Unit 6 transformed the space into a room-sized collaborative weaving loom. In response to the unfolding conflict in Ukraine, Fifth Year student Daria Nepop crowdfunded support to construct an installation on the corner of Bedford Square to raise awareness around the war and host a series of poetry readings and discussions.

The year culminated with *Projects Review 2022*, which celebrated the return of our annual end-of-year show as a physical exhibition across our buildings in Bedford Square. Titled *AA on Location*, the exhibition highlighted the impact that our sites of production within the unique Georgian spaces of the school have upon our community and the type of work that we produce. Every student in the school presented work in their unit or programme spaces to

showcase both process and finished product, leading visitors on a treasure hunt to uncover the different agendas, ideas, projects and practices on display.

Exhibitions List

AA Honours, Commendations, Prizes and Exemplary Projects 2020–21
Critical Space
LOOM
Momentum of Light
Productive Drawing, Working Stone
Projects Review 2022: AA on Location
Reclaimed Chaos
Re-Emerge: EmTech x Hassell Studio
Support Ukraine

Special Projects

Special projects included two Open Juries, workshops, Global Forums and support for an exhibition at the nearby Building Centre. While the Term 1 Open Jury was held online so that students from the last academic year could show how they used time-based media to express their ideas, the Term 2 Jury focused on narration, participation and manifestation as three forms of architectural practice, and was held in-person for students from this year to present their work in progress.

While large-scale exhibitions were not possible within the buildings at Bedford Square for most of the year, the AA supported the return of the 2021 British Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale to the neighbouring Building Centre on Store Street. The show, titled *The Garden of Privatised Delights*, featured the work of several AA alumni and staff, and explored the subject of privatised public space.



PUBLICATIONS

AA Publications are essential to the cultural and academic production of the school, and facilitate the development of critical architectural discourse worldwide. Produced in-house by a team of editors and graphic designers operating under the aegis of the Communications Studio, these titles examine potent currents and projects in architecture and the wealth of associated disciplines from which it is inseparable.

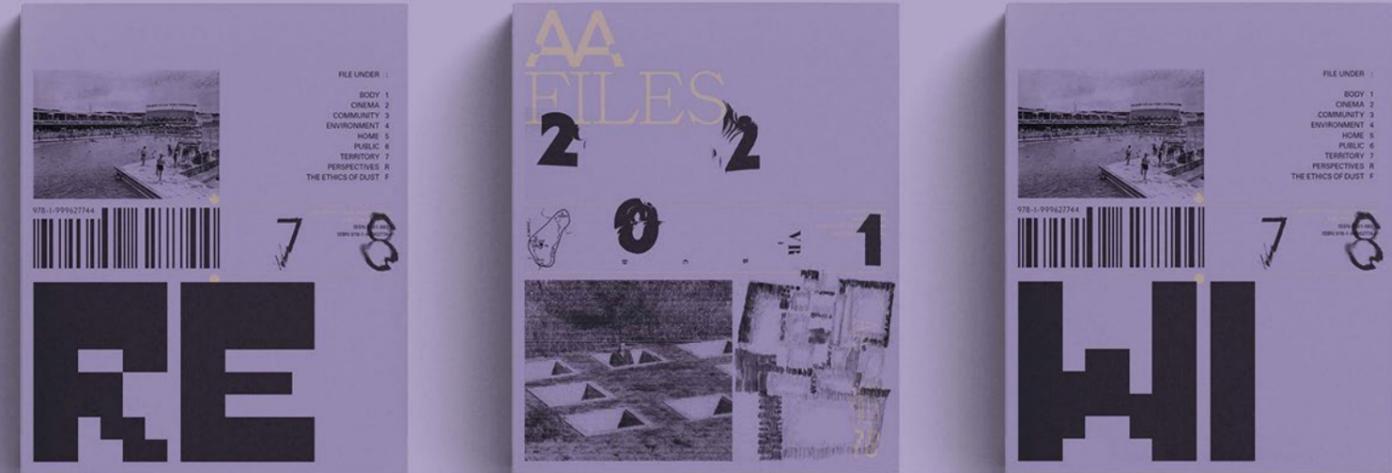
Issue 78 of *AA Files*, edited by Maria Shéhérazade Giudici, was published in November 2022. Designed by Pentagram in conjunction with AA Head of Design Sascha Lobe, *AA Files* 78 is structured as a series of thematic 'files' – Body, Cinema, Community, Environment, Home, Public, Territory and Perspectives – as well as a supplement produced in partnership with ArtAngel addressing Jorge Otero-Pailos' Westminster Hall installation *The Ethics of Dust*. Each file contains contributions from one or more authors, many from within the AA community. The issue examines a range of building typologies and histories from Pyongyang to Lusaka and beyond. It also features articles looking at some of the broader contexts informing architectural practice, including timelines of ecological rupture, ways of measuring the human body and the emergence of privatised public space.

The 2022 edition of the *AA Book*, designed, edited and published by the Communications Studio in print and digital form, is subtitled *On Location* and includes contributions from every unit and programme in the school. In recognition of this year's reoccupation of the AA buildings, the book is structured in accordance with the spatial distribution of units and programmes throughout our premises in London and Dorset, with each chapter representing a building or site in Bedford Square, Morwell Street or Hooke Park, and student work organised according to where their main teaching space was situated this year. Each building-based chapter is

bookended by a series of written accounts, observations and reflections by staff and students, highlighting different spaces within Bedford Square and Hooke Park, to capture the experience of being on location and contemplate how this influences the work and way of life that emerges from the AA. The book was published in e-book form to coincide with the AA Graduation Ceremonies in June, with the print edition following shortly thereafter.

Publications in-progress this year include new editions of *Translations from Drawing to Building and Other Essays* by Robin Evans, first published by AA Publications in 1997, and Sébastien Marot's *Sub-Urbanism and the Art of Memory*, originally edited by Pamela Johnston and published by AA Publications in 2003. In collaboration with V&A Publishing, AA Publications is developing a compendium of short essays titled *Pandemic Objects* in which authors commissioned both by the AA and the V&A explore the ways in which objects transformed in meaning and use in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Work also began in the later part of the year on a series of Wood Lab case-study publications documenting the first buildings at Hooke Park prior to the AA's purchase of the site, and a publication edited by Albert Brenchat-Aguilar to further develop the ideas which will be explored in the forthcoming AA Gallery exhibition *As Hardly Found in the Art of Tropical Architecture*.

• [Click for more information regarding Publications](#)



DIGITAL PLATFORMS

The AA uses a variety of platforms to engage with a diverse range of audiences spanning students, staff, alumni, members, the general public, architectural scholars, the media, prospective students and anyone who has an interest in listening to the discussions taking place at the school and seeing the projects, work and material being produced. Through our social media channels and main school website we highlight our public events, allowing a global audience to keep up to date with the day-to-day happenings at the school.

174,000 Instagram followers

193,000 Facebook followers

49,500 YouTube subscribers

6,100 Twitter followers

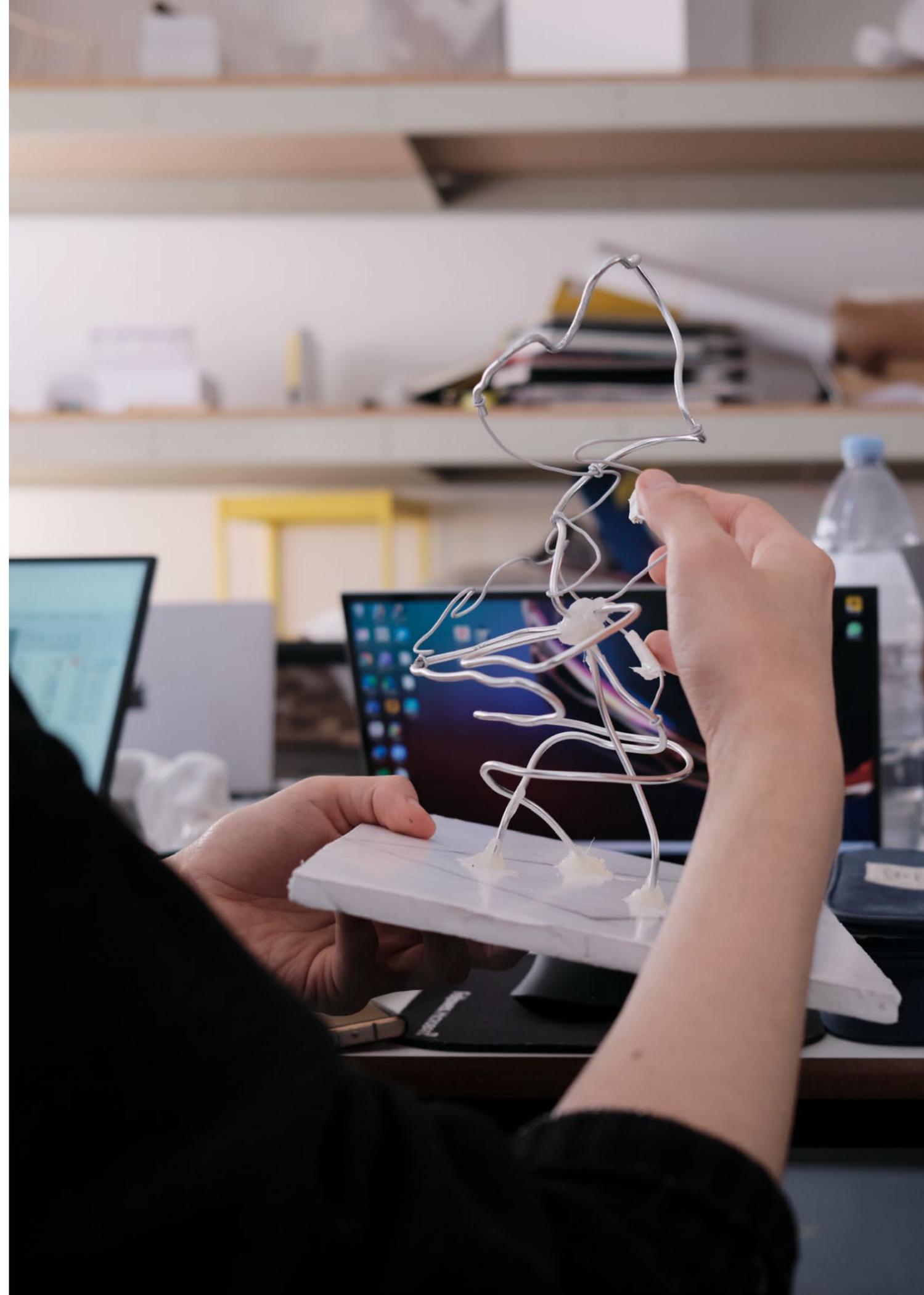
33,000 LinkedIn followers

Implementation began this year of a new Student Information System (SIS) for the AA, which will integrate and consolidate data from across the school and provide a sector-standard platform for use by our students and staff. The project aims to provide improved systems to support the entire student experience at the AA, from applications and enrolment through to alumni engagement and continuing career development. Some services offered by the SIS were launched in summer 2022, and will continue through multiple phases of work into the next academic year. Alongside this, to provide a secure platform for student- and staff-facing internal information, the AA Intranet continued to be developed and augmented throughout this cycle.

Social media remains an important means of engaging with our audiences both within and beyond the school. Outreach activities such as Instagram Live question-and-answer sessions with students from several of our programmes took place at key points in the year, offering prospective applicants insights into the experience of studying at the AA. Staff and students were encouraged to share work-in-progress as projects progressed through all three terms, and drawings, films and excerpts of this work were shared regularly on the AA's Instagram account. As Public Programme events continued in hybrid form, recordings of lectures and symposia were uploaded to our YouTube channel, which also hosted recordings of juries and academic events that were open to the public. The school saw steady growth in follower numbers across all of its social media accounts throughout 2021–22.

The school's main website, aaschool.ac.uk, remained the most important online platform, recording approximately 691,000 visits and 1.9m page views from visitors in 214 different countries worldwide. Alongside the broad range of informational content included on the site, regular News postings highlighted achievements of students, staff and alumni throughout the year.

A bespoke website was developed for the 2022 *Projects Review* exhibition, presenting hundreds of projects from students within every unit and programme at the school. The site achieved almost 185,000 page views in the three months following its launch in June 2022. In the last year, AA publications such as *AArchitecture* published on Issuu have been accessed more than 600,000 times.



BOOKSHOP

The AA Bookshop offers a diverse, extensive and carefully curated selection of books that are specifically relevant to the broad scope of teaching at the school. Based in our Bedford Square premises, with a parallel online bookshop, it is an integral part of the AA and a valuable resource not only for the school's students and staff but also for the architectural field at large, as a source of specialist, varied and rare texts.

£150k Sales Revenue

16 Book Launches and other events

The AA Bookshop reopened its doors in 2021–22 after a period of closure necessitated by pandemic restrictions. In September 2021 the shop opened for students and staff, and by April 2022 a full reopening to the public was finally possible. This return was celebrated with a programme of well-attended book launch events held in the Bookshop, introducing publications by Nigel Coates, Claire Potter, and Adam Nathaniel Furman and Joshua Mardell, among others. The Bookshop also contributed to exhibition openings including *Momentum of Light* by Iwan Baan and Francis Kéré, held at the AA in Habitation residency at Heal's in spring 2022, and the AA Book Group continued to meet online and in-person throughout the year. The @AABookshop Instagram account is now followed by more than 7,200 people, and remains a valuable channel through which to communicate with customers.

• [Click for more information regarding the AA Bookshop](#)



SPACES

BEDFORD SQUARE

A nine-building campus of 68,000 square feet offers students and staff an intellectual and academic home in Bedford Square. Located in the heart of Bloomsbury, London, the AA's main site inhabits buildings 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39 Bedford Square and 16 Morwell Street (located behind the square). These Georgian homes have been transformed into a hub of architectural activity and include studio spaces, a lecture hall, meeting rooms, presentation and public programme spaces, a library and archive, exhibition space, offices, a bar and servery, workshops, prototyping and computer labs, courtyards and terraces.

47,088	Books
915	Print journals
26	Online resource databases
119	Digital reading lists created
227,082	E-books
20GB	Lantern slides digitised
107GB	Student work acquired for preservation
93	Cubic metres of material in storage

A space audit was initiated to enable the safe return of face-to-face teaching for the 2021–22 academic year. This resulted in the reorganisation of spaces due to distancing requirements to provide adequate teaching spaces for all units and programmes; the continuation of remote working for administrative departments; and the implementation of a new hot-desking space for these staff to occasionally work on-site. The requirement for students and staff to provide evidence of a negative test to access our premises was removed in March 2022, following the easing of pandemic restrictions by the UK government, and our buildings reopened to the public in April 2022.

During 2021–22, the Wood and Metal Workshop continued to support students' model-making and fabricating work, undertaking a broad range of individual and group projects from across the school and helping to realise experimental and analogue outcomes. The Workshop added a scroll saw to its collection of machines, which enables intricate shapes to be cut with ease and has opened new and interesting possibilities for making. The collection of fine wood-carving chisels and files has also been expanded this year to support and encourage wood carving, a process students particularly enjoy. The Workshop also focused on improving the organisation, volume and accessibility of its collection of recycled scrap materials, helping students to find free materials that both spark ideas and ease the logistics of production.

The Digital Prototyping Laboratory (DPL) returned to a full-time, in-person schedule for the 2021–22 academic year whilst integrating the digital knowledge generated over the past two years into its curriculum. The Lab continued to update its online knowledge base with how-to videos, expanded its social media presence and welcomed a new robotics technician to the team. Over the summer, the Lab

also collaborated with the DLAB Visiting School on the construction of an actively-bent wood pavilion using the department's two robotic arms.

The Library continued to provide services such as scanning, book reserves and the creation of digital reading lists to support hybrid teaching. New databases were added, including Kanopy, which provides staff and students with access to more than 30,000 films and documentaries – reflecting the increasing number of films included on unit and programme reading lists. Having received a number of enquiries relating to current affairs, the Library added the *New York Times* to its offering. As the number of online journals in the collection continues to increase, the Library has sought new ways to make these more readily searchable; Browzine can now be used to search or browse e-journals by subject or title and get instant access to articles. Current print journals are now accessible on a new display unit, making them easier to find, and the AA Archives' film collection is now searchable on the Collections catalogue, allowing users to reserve DVDs for collection from the Library. In summer 2022, the Library at Hooke Park was inventoried and a self-checkout procedure was established.

In the AA Archives, 2021–22 was once again a year of growth. In addition to the core work of cataloguing and making accessible historic and contemporary AA work, the Archives curated *Critical Space*, an exhibition held in June 2022 within the AA in Habitation residency at Heal's on Tottenham Court Road. Substantial contributions of material were also made to exhibitions at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, the Cité Du Design in Saint-Étienne and the Building Centre in London. A number of important new acquisitions to the collection were also received, including work by Stefano De Martino, John Lyall, Michael Waterhouse and Graham Caine (Street Farm collective). Of particular significance was a donation by Zoe Zenghelis of an extensive set of material relating to early collaborations with Elia Zenghelis and Rem Koolhaas, including drawings for 13 OMA projects created between 1975–86. Other ongoing projects include the cataloguing of the Keith Critchlow archive and the Otto Koenigsberger collection, alongside the digitisation of the AA's historic lantern slide collection.

HOOKE PARK

Hooke Park is a growing educational space that combines forest, studio, workshop and building site. It is home to the Design and Make programme and hosts short residential workshops for visiting groups of students from throughout the school. Design, construction and landscape-focused projects undertaken at the facility are supported by a diverse team of expert practitioners, including craftspeople, designers, engineers, robotic technicians and foresters. Acquired by the AA in 2002, the site is a designated Ancient Woodland and forms a part of the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; its rural landscape provides a unique counterpoint to the urban context and the focus of architectural study in the metropolis.

As a 140-hectare working forest in Dorset, Hooke Park comprises workshops, assembly spaces, studios, a refectory and student accommodation. The campus is the full-time base for the students and staff of the Design and Make Taught Postgraduate programme, and also hosts units and programmes from across the AA for visits throughout the year. Visiting students stay on site and study in the woods. This year, the Hooke Park campus reopened for the wider AA community as pandemic restrictions were eased, which allowed us to continue strengthening our connections with the units and programmes at Bedford Square.

Hooke Park is a rich context which serves as an immersive laboratory for creative exploration and architectural research – a unique environment in which the landscape is central to the work, and where full-scale design and build projects and 1:1 prototypes are nested carefully into the tissue of the working forest environment.

Design and Make students are currently completing a new Field Station – situated beyond the campus and within the forest – which will provide a space for AA students, forest workers and passing walkers to learn, shelter and work ‘in the field’. This latest addition will offer visiting and residential students an outdoor teaching space within the forest. It represents an invitation to spend some time deeper within the woodland, to engage with the forest and forestry operations, and to set up chance encounters with the people and wildlife that inhabit this environment.



PEOPLE



STUDENTS

Students at the AA come from all over the world, with more than 80 nationalities represented in the 2021–22 academic year. Twenty three per cent of our students are supported financially by either a scholarship, bursary, student assistantship or hardship award, with £1.27m distributed in 2021–22. Scholarships are awarded to new students entering the five-year course in architecture for two or three years, subject to academic progression. Bursaries are awarded on an annual basis to students across all programmes. The majority of students in 2021–22 were female (59%).

6%	UK students
15%	EU/EEA students
79%	International students
611	Students on the Foundation Course, and the five-year ARB/RIBA course in architecture (Years 1–5)
393	Students within the Taught Postgraduate programmes
1,004	Total

The school continues to offer a number of support mechanisms focusing on both academic pursuits and students' mental health and wellbeing. The Student Care Centre offered fully-registered students confidential, one-to-one therapy appointments with a MBACP accredited counsellor, as well as a series of workshops created to educate and support students in relation to issues such as anxiety, loss, mood management and self-esteem. The AA continued its partnership with the TalkCampus service, an app-based global mental health solution bringing students together from around the world within a safe and secure infrastructure to connect them with relevant and timely peer support in 25 languages. Throughout all its activities, the Student Care Centre aims to support students' concerns and help them navigate anxieties and emotional difficulties, to foster emotional resilience and to overcome obstacles to their personal and professional success.

The Writing Centre continued to support students in the development of their written communication skills, helping to strengthen reading, critical research and creative writing capabilities across all programmes and year groups. One-to-one tutorials with Writing Centre staff were available to students throughout the year, offering guidance and feedback to improve writing in the context of essays and project texts, and to help students prepare presentations of their work for juries and tables. Working together with the AA Library and with the approval of the Teaching and Learning Committee, the Writing Centre compiled a new *AA Referencing Guide* to establish a common referencing standard across the school, which was made available to all students and staff on the AA Library Catalogue website.

Our students continue to excel and have received nominations, won awards, and fulfilled aims and ambitions. Below are just a few of the many deserved recognitions given to students this year.

Fourth Year student Peiyao Yu was chosen as a winner of the My Future City – 2022 Metaverse Design Idea Festival for the project *Dual-exist Dong Village*, created with AA alumna Siyue Zhang. Seeking to maintain a sense of community, ethnic identity and belonging through virtual crafting, *Dual-exist Dong Village* focuses on the rituals of the Dong ethnic group in China, suggesting the possibility of remote access and multiple ways of experiencing the village.

Fourth Year students Zekun Qin, Yolande Wang, Peiyao Yu and University of Stuttgart student Weiqi Xie were together awarded the third place prize in the Young Architects Competition: Riyadh Dream Villas for their project *Between Walls*. The competition brief called for the design of two dwellings sited at the edge of the Arabian desert.

Qin and Wang were also recipients of the BB Student Award 2021 in the Romantic Cabin for Two competition, held in partnership with Earth Energies New Zealand, which asked participants to imagine and design a getaway retreat. Their project, titled *Sanctuary Beacon*, is an open-plan triangular timber structure that allows guests to engage with the surrounding foliage and a panoramic view of the mountains.

A series of short documentaries created by students from the 2020–21 Diploma Unit 18 cohort were exhibited at the *Waste Age* exhibition held at the Design Museum in London from October 2021–February 2022. The work was created by Fourth and Fifth Year (2020–21) students: Qing Nan Meng's documentary focuses on the demolition of hundreds of villages around Jinan City, China, and the reclamation of stone from these sites; Amaya Hernandez documented the removal, reuse and manufacture of tiling in Florianopolis, Brazil; Ele Mun documented the Clearaway Reclamation salvage yard in Kent; and Jihane-May Slaoui documented a used material souk in Casablanca.

STAFF

The achievements of the 2021–22 academic year were made possible by the dedication of all of our staff, whose collective effort to enable a safe and productive return to on-site teaching and working demonstrated the agility and innovation that is at the core of the AA community. As a collection of academics, administrators, practitioners, tutors, chefs, theorists, writers, designers and facilitators, the AA staff continues to push the boundaries of what is possible, both within the school and externally, at events, exhibitions and by producing publications.

Academic Staff	
109	UK
115	EU/EEA
40	International
264	Total number of staff
Administrative Staff	
89	UK
27	EU/EEA
13	International
129	Total number of staff

To list all staff accomplishments throughout a single year would take a publication much larger than this, and the highlights listed below are just a sampling of the remarkable achievements by AA staff during 2021–22.

In September 2021, two projects by AA tutors were featured at the Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum as part of the London Design Festival. *Made on Location* was the work of Experimental Unit 4 tutors Akil and Seth Scafe-Smith as part of their design collective RESOLVE; their installation used upcycled materials to explore how museums of the future are essential spaces for local youth groups. The project was a collaboration between Blackhorse Responders, V&A East Youth Collective and other youth groups from the four London Olympic boroughs of Hackney, Waltham Forest, Newham and Tower Hamlets. *Placeholders* was designed by Diploma Unit 18 tutors Aude-Line Duliere and James Westcott, and Foundation tutor Juliet Haysom, with an accompanying video created by AA alumna Ele Mun. The project, which consisted of an outdoor installation and documentary, highlighted the possibilities offered by material reuse through the reworking of stone that was once part of the V&A buildings.

Emergent Technologies and Design (EmTech) Programme Head Elif Erdine, Studio Master Milad Showkatbakhsh and Founding Director Michael Weinstock finished as runners-up in the Tallinn Architecture Biennale (TAB) 2022. They collaborated with Nicolo Bencini of BuroHappold Engineering to design *RE|EVOLVE*, a proposal that explored new design and construction technologies for repurposed materials that have completed their first life cycle towards innovative structural formations.

Experimental Unit 2 tutor Verity-Jane Keefe's work on the Becontree Estate featured in the RIBA exhibition *Lived in Architecture* at the Architecture Gallery at 66 Portland Place, London, in winter 2022. Keefe's project, titled *Becontree at 100*, consists of a film and a series of spatial and decorative works that capture the essence and architectural nuances of the Becontree Estate – formerly the largest example of social housing in Europe.

James Kwang-Ho Chung and Brendon Carlin, unit masters of Diploma 19, were invited to exhibit (*UN*) *FAITHFULL SEOULS – A Manual for Architectural Mutations* in the Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism (SBAU) 2021 in Korea, which was curated by AA alumni Jinhong Jeon

and Yunee Choi. The project focused on an alternative way of practising architecture by observing Seoul's mutations. Together with AAVS Programme Head and alumnus Joeeun Sung, Chung was also awarded the British Council Exploratory Grant for UK-Korea Virtual Academic Collaboration in December 2021, for a joint pilot academic programme between the AA and Yonsei University in Korea. The project will enable the development and testing of a new virtual teaching methodology through a cross-continental collaboration.

Diploma Unit 4 tutors John Palmesino and Ann-Sofi Rönnskog collaborated with Patti Smith, Jesse Paris Smith and Soundwalk Collective for a multimedia performance at the opening of the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021 (COP26) in Glasgow. The live performance, the soundtrack for which was derived from the TBA21–Academy ocean sound archive, was accompanied by visuals created by Palmesino and Rönnskog's practice Territorial Agency that provided visceral insights into the magnitude of the life-threatening sound pollution of the ocean.

Also at COP26, Experimental Unit 17 tutor Mark E Breeze was selected as one of four officially-designated NGO observers at the conference as part of his role as a Board Director and Founding Chair of UK Sustainability at the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

In autumn 2021, essays by AA Head of Teaching and Learning, Mark Morris, were published in a number of anthologies and periodicals. His contribution to *Extinct: A Compendium of Obsolete Objects* (Reaktion Books, 2021) focused on the demise of Fisher-Price Little People toy sets owing to choking hazards associated with the peg figures that populated the toy buildings. The publication includes contributions by architects, artists, critics, curators and academics. For *An Alphabet of Architectural Models* (Merrell, 2021), Morris contributed an entry for the letter Y – 'Yummy' – and focused on the edible model, from the moulded ices of cathedrals beloved by Marcel Proust, to the creation (and subsequent ingestion) of Zaha Hadid's design for The Peak Leisure Club in Hong Kong, which was presented as a chocolate cake model in the library of the AA. He also contributed a chapter to *Emerging Talents: Training Architects* (AD Wiley, 2021), which examines new developments in architectural education. Morris' chapter is titled 'Project Documentaries: The Rise of the Cinematic Portfolio' and addresses the impact of online presentations, while examining the AA's long engagement with film and video as both expressive media and as tools of analysis and design.

Studio NYALI, the practice of Diploma Unit 2 tutors Bushra Mohamed and Nana Biamah-Ofosu, was selected as one of the Best New Practices of 2021 by *Archdaily*. The studio focuses on identity, shared histories and spaces, underpinned by the belief that architecture must be understood as the embodiment and artifact of the human experience. Biamah-Ofosu and Mohamed also curated the exhibition *Althea McNish: Colour is Mine* at the William Morris Gallery in London, which ran from April–September

2022 and highlighted the work of Trinidadian textile artist Althea McNish, who moved to the UK in the 1950s and was widely acclaimed for her innovative work, becoming the first such practitioner of Caribbean descent to achieve international recognition.

Projective Cities tutor and AA alumnus Daryan Knoblauch was awarded the second prize for the Architectural Design competition of the European Cultural Capital 2022, with a proposal for a public installation to reimagine Place des Alliés in Differdange in Luxembourg.

Theodore Spyropoulos, Head of the Architecture and Urbanism (DRL) programme, was commissioned to contribute to the late Yona Friedman's *L'EXPOSITION MOBILE* at the museum of Le Quadrilatère in Beauvais in March 2022. His work, titled *The Order of Time*, is an attempt to extend Friedman's ideas of space and time to an extreme conclusion, and takes its name from the title of a book written by physicist Carlo Rovelli. Spyropoulos' project *Vehicle (War Veterans)* was also acquired by the permanent collection of the Frac Centre-Val de Loire in July 2022.

Diploma Unit 7 tutor and Projective Cities Course Master Hamed Khosravi co-curated the *Fields, Fragments, Fictions* exhibition at the Heinz Architectural Center at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, showcasing the work of Zoe Zenghelis. The monographic exhibition, curated by Khosravi and Theodossis Issaias, opened in March 2022.

ALUMNI

Alumni are ambassadors and advocates of the school. They are vital members of the AA community who raise the global profile of the Association and contribute to its reputation through their achievements as some of the world's most renowned architects, designers, architectural thinkers and educators. The intent of our evolving alumni programme is to develop a highly engaged and active international community which extends the school's network and supports young professionals who attended the AA. We also offer Alumni Membership free of charge, providing access to groups, events, career development and networking opportunities, and an online register of alumni and members, among other benefits.

11,335	Alumni
133	Nationalities
In 141 countries worldwide	

The Global Forums programme continues to provide AA alumni with a space to learn, share and discuss architectural ideas and initiatives from a local perspective, both in an online context and through on-site meetings, lectures and workshops. This year, the Global Forum Korea was held in collaboration with the Korea Architecture and Culture Festival, organised by the Korean Institute of Architects (KIA). The event comprised an exhibition featuring work by AA alumni from Korea, and a forum exploring cohousing projects in Korea and around the world. Work by AA graduates also featured within KIA's *100 Architects 2021* exhibition.

The Careers Office, established just before the pandemic, has become an invaluable source of advice and support for hundreds of students. It also provides an important link to architectural practices and other professionals, bringing students and alumni together through mentorship, career-related events and visits to offices and projects. Presentations were organised throughout the year to help students and alumni prepare for work placements and develop their CVs and portfolios, and a weekly email containing career opportunities continues to be produced and circulated to interested students and recent graduates. In May 2022, a speed mentoring event held at the AA in Habitation residency at Heal's attracted 12 professionals and more than 100 students. A Press and Practices preview of the *Projects Review* exhibition in June 2022 attracted participation from dozens of leading offices and graduating students across the school, resulting in a considerable number of interviews and placements over the summer.

After 18 months in which pandemic restrictions made large gatherings impossible, a total of 1,206 students celebrated their graduation during 2021–22, more than five times the number of graduating students in 2019. The largest graduation ceremony ever to be held at the AA took place in September 2021, with carefully monitored Covid-19 protocols. A total of 797 students from the 2019–20 and 2020–21 academic years graduated together over two days in a hybrid event that allowed participation in person and online. The 2021–22 cohort of 409 students celebrated their graduation in June 2022.

• [Click for more information regarding Alumni](#)

MEMBERS

The strength, diversity and independence of our school is reliant on a global network of more than 8,000 members who formally constitute the AA.

8,164	Total members, of which:
1,015	Student members
393	Staff members
3,950	Alumni members

The number of registered AA members continues to grow steadily; 1,282 new members were welcomed in the year to January 2022, an increase in comparison to the 810 new members who joined in the previous year, but still below pre-pandemic figures (1,455 in the year to January 2020).

As access to the AA buildings remained restricted for a portion of the year, some events for members were still able to run, with attendance to these often higher than for pre-pandemic events. A private gallery talk was organised for the *Momentum of Light* exhibition at the AA's residency at Heal's, led by exhibiting artist Iwan Baan, as well as a tour of the Bauhaus exhibition at RIBA with Ines Weismann. The informal, student-led group of AA ramblers, Hiking Architecture, opened their weekend walks to AA members, and the Careers Office organised a series of visits to architectural offices and projects that proved extremely popular.

The student-led *AArchitecture* magazine continued to be delivered to members, and the membership journal *AA Files* was provided to fully subscribed members. The AA Weekly e-newsletter now includes news, grants opportunities, members' events, obituaries and alumni features, as well as details of the academic and public programmes at the school. The development of the format throughout the year has helped to streamline the quantity and frequency of external communications, with a positive impact on the number of subscribers.

The new Digital Membership category introduced in 2021, which offers enhanced access to online resources and e-books supplied by the AA Library, continues to attract attention post-pandemic, with 541 digital members currently registered. In addition to this, the online resources that were extended for all members during lockdown have become a permanent membership benefit. The department continues to build on the valuable feedback gained from the extensive membership survey carried out in 2021, and looks forward to developing the recommendations that resulted from this survey with support from the new AA Director Ingrid Schroder.

• [Click for more information regarding Membership](#)

FINANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Finance Department is responsible for providing a financial and management accounting service, including timely and accurate annual statutory accounts, management information and budget reports for the Architectural Association (Inc) and Architectural Association Publications Ltd.

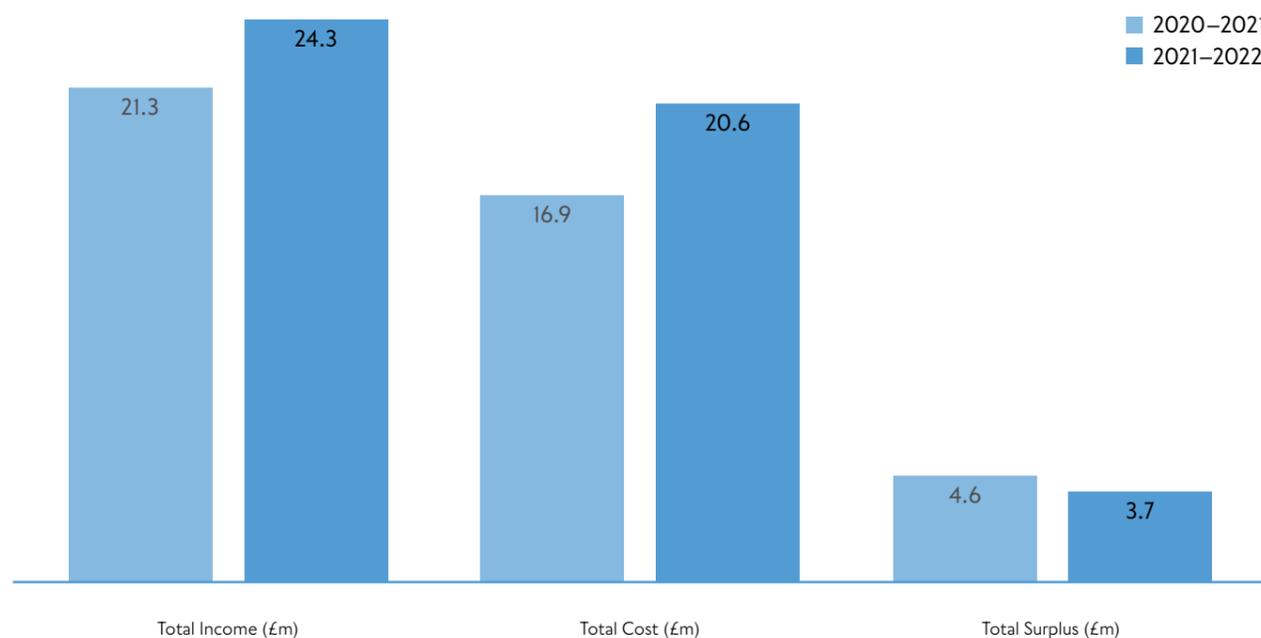
Key Financial Highlights

During the 2021–22 cycle, the Finance Department reviewed the internal controls and tightened those relating to accounts payable, accounts receivable, anti-money laundering procedures, and unbudgeted and over-budget spending. The reserves policy was also reviewed and amended. Azets, the AA's Internal Auditors, completed internal audits around the Fundraising Framework, GDPR and Risk Management. First Actuarial completed the triennial actuarial valuation of the Defined Benefit Scheme as of 31 July 2021, in consultation with the Trustees of the Scheme and the employer. The recovery plan was agreed for additional payments of £200k over two years. The fee freeze, hardship fund and exceptional early payment discounts implemented in response to the pandemic were all maintained in order to address the ongoing funding needs of students.

Financial Statements

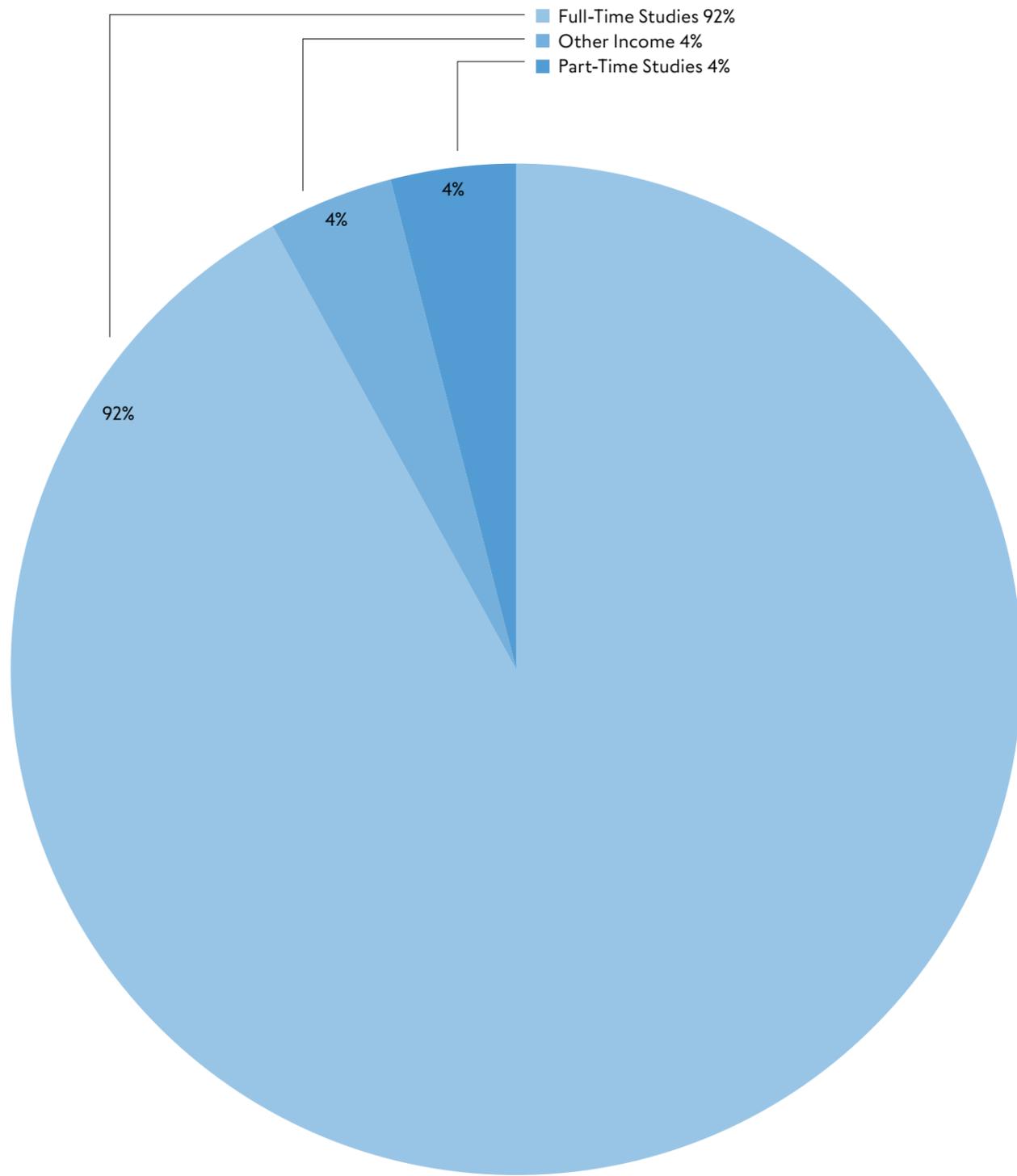
The financial statements consolidate the results of the wholly owned subsidiary, Architectural Association Publications Limited. In summary, the total income for the year was £24.3m (2021: £21.3m) with an expenditure of £20.6m (2021: £16.9m). The annual net surplus of £3.7m

(2021: £4.6m) results from the higher student enrolment of 1,004 (2021: 901) at the start of the academic year. However, the expenditure was £3.7m higher than the previous financial year and reflects the return to face-to-face teaching. The school has unavoidably high fixed costs due to its obligation to teaching staff to serve the full-time students and maintain the long-term lease obligations. The net assets of the AA during the year have increased by £3.7m (2021 increase: £4.6m). As part of the annual review process, the AA's free reserves policy was amended during the year to mitigate the financial risk from any long-term pandemic periods. It was agreed that a cash contingency sufficient to cover nine months (2021: nine to twelve months) of core operational expenditure should be maintained so long as economic uncertainty and the potential for unforeseen financial difficulties persist. This was estimated at £17.5m (2021: £12.75m to £17m). The cash balance for the full year as a percentage of the free reserves target for 2022 is 98% (2021: 102%). In this context, the core operational expenditure is defined as the full cost of undertaking charitable activities (ie excluding trading). Furthermore, if there were ever a scenario where liabilities exceeded available cash, the Council believes that the fixed assets' realisable value would cover such liabilities.



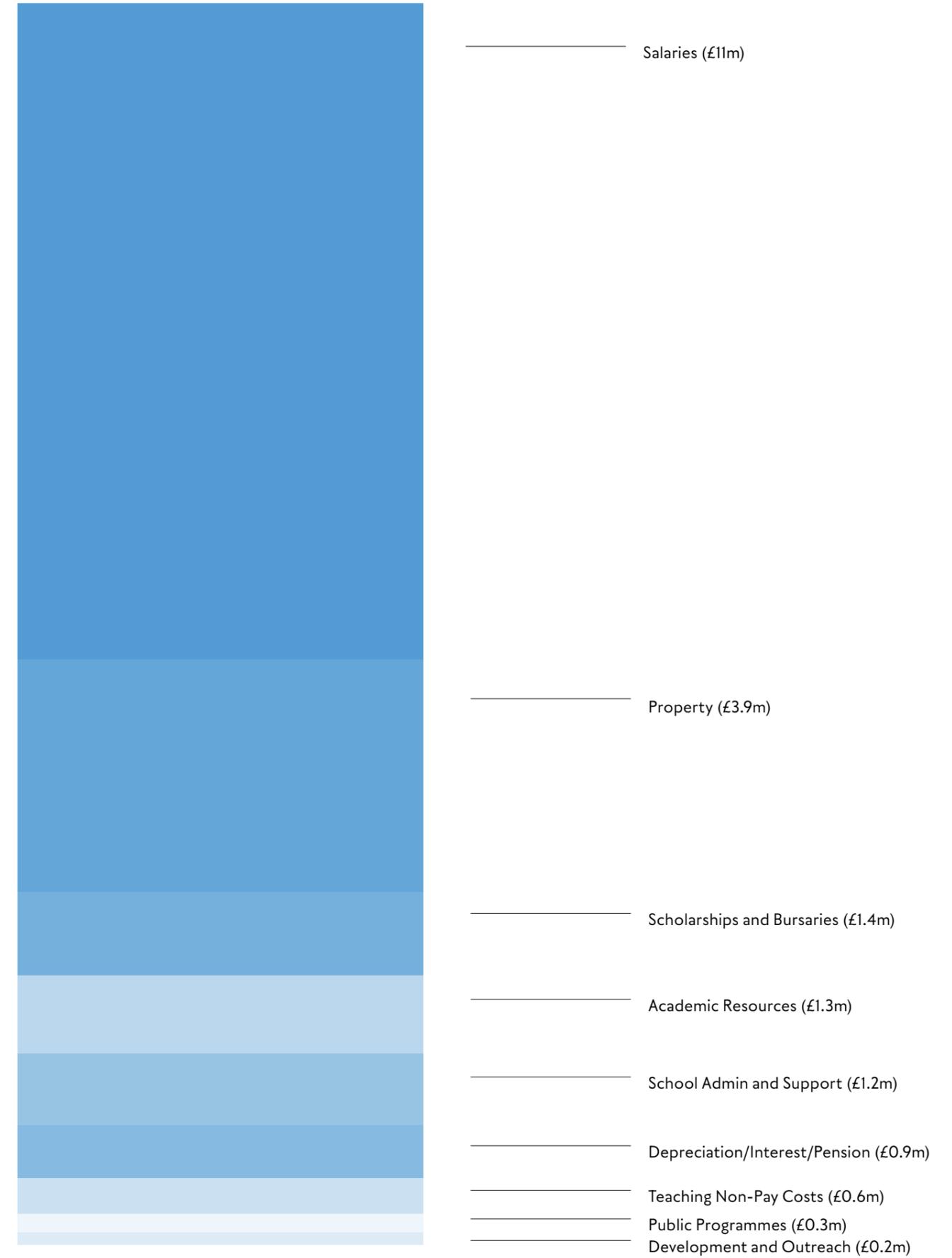
INCOME

% of £24.3m



EXPENSES

£m of £20.6m



FUNDRAISING AND SPONSORSHIP

To provide accessible, relevant and progressive architectural education to students from around the world, regardless of their financial means, requires the support of generous individuals and groups that value the AA's educational and cultural contributions. Individual donations and corporate partnerships are co-ordinated by the Membership and Alumni Office, whilst the Grants Office encourages and supports funding applications from students and staff.

The AA is committed to extending the support it can offer to help ensure that the most talented students are able to study at the school, regardless of their financial means. Currently one in five students receives financial support from a scholarship, bursary, student assistantship or the AA Hardship Fund. The school aims to increase the funding available and to introduce fully-paid scholarships for the most deserving students who would otherwise not be able to study at the AA. Visiting School Scholarships have been initiated during this cycle to ensure that our global workshops are also affordable to local students all around the world.

A fund has been established this year for an Annual Lecture at the AA, as a highlight of our Public Programme, to commemorate the late Mark Cousins – an inspirational speaker and teacher at the school for more than three decades. The fund has been set up with the generous support of Parveen Adams and contributions by close friends and admirers. The Annual Lecture will bring Mark's teaching to audiences old and new, and highlight the wealth of relevant available materials in the AA Archives.

During this cycle, the AA Archives also received the archive of the influential historian, architect and artist Keith Critchlow (1933–2020), together with a donation to cover the employment of a project cataloguer for six months and the costs of associated archival materials. Keith Critchlow is a figure of international importance, known for his pioneering studies and writings on Islamic architecture and sacred geometry alongside his practice as an architect and artist. The Critchlow archive is one of the most important additions to the AA Archives in the last ten years and will attract numerous scholars from a diverse range of institutions and backgrounds.

Two Research Labs based at the AA are made possible thanks to external funding. Ground Lab partnered with the Common Wealth think tank on a mapping project in Glasgow ahead of the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference, and secured a British Council grant as well as support from the Inter-American Development Bank to develop digital tools in relation to climate risk in Mexico and South America. Wood Lab, which also addresses urgent environmental concerns by integrating science, design and new fabrication technologies in their work with trees and wood as a building resource, continued to receive support from furniture designer John Makepeace who, as director of the Parnham Trust (1982–2001), founded the Hooke Park campus.

A dedicated grants writer at the AA supports programmes and individuals with grant applications, which this year have included successful institutional awards received from the British Council, the Henry Moore Foundation, the Graham Foundation and the Elephant Trust.

Fundraising activity at the AA is overseen by the Sponsorship, Grants and Opportunities Panel and facilitated by a Fundraising Team of staff representatives from across the school. This structure, introduced in 2020, allows for collaborations to be fostered across departments, bringing staff and students together with a shared focus and enabling opportunities to be promoted more widely.

Long-term donations made to the AA, and all donations in support of student scholarships, bursaries and prizes, are received and safeguarded by the AA Foundation, an independent charitable trust set up in 1989, whose Trustees ensure that 100 per cent of donated funds are designated to their intended purpose.

BENEFACTORS, DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

500 Words Magazine, AIA Middle East, Aimilia Zoumpoulidou, Al Nafaj Architectural Studios, American University of Beirut, Amigos de los Parques, Andariya Aram Store, Archinet, Architects Read, Autodesk, Azulik, Baukulturjahr 2021, Branch Technology, British Council, British Embassy in Panama, British Institute of East Africa, BuroHappold Engineering, Caixa d'Enginyers, California College of the Arts (CCA), San Francisco, Centro Universitário Belas Artes de São Paulo, Chora Conscious City, TU Berlin, Chris Doray, Cove Park Residency, Consejo Profesional de Arquitectura y Urbanismo (CPAU), Cristina Garcia, the Critchlow Family, CTC Group, De Stefano, Deer Designs, Diseñadores Nacionales Asociados (DINA), Dresden Marketing, EDGE Design Group, Escuela de Arquitectura UC, The Municipality of Favignana, FDL, Florian Busch, Fondation de Luxembourg, Foundation ETE, Fundació Caixa d'Enginyers, Geoversity, Goethe Institute Sudan, Gordana Korolija Fontana-Giusti, Graham Foundation, Gray Area Centre for the Arts, Hassell Studio, Henry Moore Foundation, University of Hong Kong, ICON, IM/KM Architecture, Irina Velkova and Emil Petrov, ISKAN,

Isthmus. Escuela de Arquitectura y Diseño de América Latina y el Caribe, Jake Berry, John Makepeace, Korean Institute of Architects, KulturRegion Stuttgart, Kunsthalle Zürich, Locale, Luxembourg Center for Architecture, Maeda Corporation, Malin+Goetz, Michael Davies, Mimar Musqat, Ministerio de Diseño, Nacho Martí, Nick Evans, Oeuvre Nationale de Secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte, One Click LCA, Parveen Adams, Peter Thomas, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Revista PLOT, Richard Saltoun Gallery, Richard Sennett, Rolex, Roth Architecture, Rubner Group, Society for the Study of the Sudans, Spyros Papapetros, Stuttgart State Academy of Art and Design, Sudan Architecture Forum, Taoma Architecture, The Bartlett School of Architecture (UCL), The Elephant Trust, The Muse, Thomas Smith, TU Berlin, Universidad Tec de Monterrey, Université du Luxembourg, University of Melbourne, University of Sydney, University of Pennsylvania, Velux, Walter P Moore, Wideprint, William Firebrace, Wolf Perrlman, Woodbury University, Wörthersee Tourismus, Vienna Boys Choir, Yahe Habitats, Haikou Economic School, Yonsei University

PRIZES AND AWARDS

AA Prize

Amaya Hernandez, Fifth Year

Alex Stanhope Forbes Prize

Imogen Harrison, Third Year

Brian Henderson Prize

Haoming Zheng, Third Year

Qi Zhu, Third Year

Dennis Sharp Prize

Gaetano Drago, Fourth Year

Vedika Kapur, Fourth Year

Denys Lasdun Award for Excellence in Architecture

Sindi Dojaka, Third Year

Henry Florence Studentship

Zhi Bin Cheah, Fifth Year

Henry Saxon Snell Prize

Tanuj Kohli, Fifth Year

Holloway Trust Prize

Maya Factor, Second Year

Yi Huang, Fourth Year

Howard Colls Studentship

Sharifah Sonia Binti Syed Moktar Shah, Fourth Year

Julia Wood Foundation Prize

Taewoo Kim, Foundation

Nicholas Pozner Memorial Prize for Single Best Drawing

Bryan Hok Him Ho, Fifth Year

Ralph Knott Memorial Prize

Julian Wasilewski, First Year

William Glover Prize

Ella Mahalia Adu, Fifth Year

David and Beverly Bernstein Award

Julia Spirig, Housing and Urbanism

AA Travel Award

Yifei Wang, Third Year

Alexander Memorial Travel Prize

Jiangge (Connie) Zhao, First Year

Jane Chu Travel Award

Laure Segur, Second Year

Mike Davies Travel Award

Tugra Agrikli, Second Year

Peter Sabara Travel Award

Kathleen Gagnier, Third Year

History and Theory Studies Writing Award

Ricardo Cozzi, First Year

Michal Chudner, Second Year

Jay Potts, Third Year

History and Theory Studies Prize

Thomas Andrew Faulkner, Fifth Year

Communication and Media Studies Annual Prizes

Felix Barr, Foundation

Najla Alayyoubi, First Year

Leyou Chen, Second Year

Environmental and Technical Studies Annual Prizes

Gal Shachor, Third Year

Thomas Andrew Faulkner, Fifth Year



GOVERNANCE

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Council is the governing body of the AA. It provides strategic oversight for the Association and is ultimately responsible for the operation of the organisation at large. Council members are required to: oversee both short- and long-term objectives of the Association; ensure financial viability and sustainability for the organisation; meet all necessary legal and regulatory obligations; and safeguard the reputation of the AA.

Members who served on council during the 2021–22 period

Appointment/Resignation 2021–22

Trevor Bolton
Jonathan Brierley
Mark Damazer CBE
David Edgerton
David Gibson
Susannah Hagan
Sam Jacob
Trevor Morriss
Joel Newman
Ravin Ponniah (Vice President)
Yael Reisner
George Robert Sawtell
Victoria Thornton OBE (President)
Catherine du Toit (President from 11 August 2022)
Nick Viner
Mohammad Riad Yassine
Madeleine Louise Rohan

Resigned 31 May 2022

Resigned 24 June 2022
Appointed 18 July 2022

Audit and Risk Committee

David Gibson (Chair)

Degree Awarding Committee

David Edgerton (Chair)

Estates and Infrastructure Committee

Catherine du Toit (Chair)

Finance and Resources Committee

George Robert Sawtell (Chair)

Nominations and Remuneration Committee

Nick Viner (Chair)

• [Click for more information regarding Governance](#)

ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE

The Academic Board is the academic body charged with responsibility for the academic governance of the AA School and its programmes of study. The Academic Board maintains strategic oversight for the development, monitoring, quality of standards and enhancement of teaching and learning, and approval of the school's Academic Regulations. Its activities recognise the aims and objectives of the AA's Articles and By-laws. The Academic Board delegates responsibilities to, and monitors the progress, effectiveness and recommendations of, the AA School's academic committees, which comprise the Academic Committee, the Teaching and Learning Committee, and the PhD Committee.

Academic Board

Chair of Academic Board:
The 2021–22 meeting cycle was chaired by the following academic ex-officio board members:
Kate Davies: October 2021 (meeting 1 of 5)
Michael Weinstock: November 2021 (meeting 2 of 5)
Christopher Pierce: February 2022 (meeting 3 of 5)
Pier Vittorio Aureli: May 2022 (meeting 4 of 5)
Mark Morris: September 2022 (meeting 5 of 5)

Academic Board Administrator
School Registrar
Belinda Flaherty
Ex-officio

Chair of Academic Committee
Michael Weinstock
Ex-officio

Chair of Ethics Committee
Simos Yannas
Ex-officio

Chair of PhD Committee
Pier Vittorio Aureli
Ex-officio

Chair of Teaching and Learning Committee
Mark Morris
Ex-officio

Quality Assurance Facilitator/
Head of Visiting School
Christopher Pierce
Ex-officio

Core Studies Representative
Kate Davies
Ex-officio

Experimental Programme Staff Representative

Pol Esteve
Elected

Diploma Programme Staff Representative

Inigo Minns
Elected

Taught Postgraduate Programmes Representative

Paula Cadima
Elected

Taught Postgraduate Programmes Representative

Theodore Spyropoulos
Elected

Foundation, Experimental and Diploma Student Representative

Vacant
Elected

Foundation, Experimental and Diploma Student Representative

Mohamad Riyad Yassine
Elected

Postgraduate Student Representative

Vacant
Elected

Postgraduate Student Representative

Vacant
Elected

Observer

AA Council Member
Attending

Academic Committee

Chair of Academic Committee
Michael Weinstock
Appointed

Academic Committee Administrator
School Registrar

Belinda Flaherty
Ex-officio

Foundation Course Representative

Álvaro Velasco Perez
Elected

Experimental Programme Staff Representative

Pol Esteve
Elected

Diploma Programme Staff Representative

Inigo Minns
Elected

Core Studies Representative

Kate Davies
Ex-officio

Taught Postgraduate Programme Staff Representative

Paula Cadima
Elected

Taught Postgraduate Programme Staff Representative

Theodore Spyropoulos
Elected

Chair of PhD Committee

Pier Vittorio Aureli
Ex-officio

Head of Academic Resources

Joel Newman
Ex-officio

Head of Professional Practice Part 3

Paul Crosby
Ex-officio

Head of Visiting School

Christopher Pierce
Ex-officio

Foundation, Experimental and Diploma Student Representative

Elisa Commanay
Elected

Foundation, Experimental and Diploma Student Representative

Deniz Ozcan
Elected

Postgraduate Student Representative

Vacant
Elected

Postgraduate Student Representative

Vacant
Elected

Ethics Committee

Chair of Ethics Committee

Simos Yannas
Appointed

Ethics Committee Administrator

School Registrar
Belinda Flaherty
Ex-officio

Head of Teaching and Learning

Mark Morris
Ex-officio

Chair of PhD Committee

Pier Vittorio Aureli
Ex-officio

Quality Assurance Facilitator

Christopher Pierce
Ex-officio

Academic Staff Representative

Teresa Stoppani
Elected

Student Representative

Selin Nisa Acikel
Elected

External Member

Carys Rowlands
Appointed

Internal Assessment Board

Chair of Internal Assessment Board (2021–22 cycle)

Head of Teaching and Learning
Mark Morris
Ex-officio

Internal Assessment Board

Administrator
School Registrar
Belinda Flaherty
Ex-officio

Experimental Programme

Representative
Pol Esteve
Elected

Diploma Programme Representative

Inigo Minns

Taught Postgraduate Programme

Representative
Paula Cadima

Taught Postgraduate Programme

Representative
Theodore Spyropoulos

Teaching and Learning Committee

Chair of Teaching and Learning

Committee
Head of Teaching and Learning
Mark Morris
Ex-officio

Teaching and Learning Committee

Administrator
Quality Assurance Officer
Emma Newbury
Ex-officio

Foundation, Experimental and Diploma

Staff Representative
Eleanor Dodman
Appointed (by nomination)

Foundation, Experimental and Diploma

Staff Representative
Monia De Marchi
Appointed (by nomination)

Foundation, Experimental and Diploma

Staff Representative
Silvana Taher
Appointed (by nomination)

Taught Postgraduate Programme Staff Representative

Theo Lorenz
Appointed (by nomination)

Student Representative

Sheer Gritzerstein
Elected

External Member

Barbara Penner
Appointed

External Member

Robert Schmidt
Appointed

PhD Committee

Chair of PhD Committee

Pier Vittorio Aureli
Ex-officio

PhD Committee Administrator

Postgraduate Co-ordinator
Clement Chung
(to December 2021)
Ex-officio

Director of Studies

Marina Lathouri
Appointed

Director of Studies

Michael Weinstock
Appointed

Research Awards and Publications

Maria Shéhérazade Giudici
Appointed

PhD Student Representative

Anna Font Vacas
Endorsed

PhD Student Representative

Dorette Panagiotopoulou
Endorsed

Head of Teaching and Learning

Mark Morris
Attending

School Registrar

Belinda Flaherty
Attending

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Senior Management Team (SMT) is responsible for the management and operations of the AA School. The SMT operates at the level of strategic leadership and serves as the primary management interface between the AA School, its Academic Board and academic committees, and the Council. The Academic Resource Team (ART) and the Public Engagement Team (PET) continue to support the SMT.

During the period in which the role of School Director was vacant, the AA Council reflected on the interim management arrangements in place and considered any such modifications required to aid the Director search, the structures that would initially be in place to support a new Director, and the means to clearly articulate the leadership of the AA to both internal audiences and external regulators and validators. As a result, an Interim Executive Group (IEG) was created comprising five Senior Management Team (SMT) members. The IEG was chaired by Mark Morris, who continued as Chief Accountable Officer until the new Director was appointed. The wider SMT continued in its current composition focusing on operations, supporting the work of the IEG and guided by decisions taken by the IEG.

Interim Executive Group

School Registrar
Belinda Flaherty
Ex-officio

Head of Teaching and Learning
Mark Morris
Ex-officio

Head of Finance and Strategic Development
Salah Mirza
(Resigned 12 June 2022)
Ex-officio

Head of Part-Time Studies
Christopher Pierce
Ex-officio

Chair of Academic Committee
Michael Weinstock
Ex-officio

Senior Management Team

Company Secretary
Holly Bowden
(resigned 31 January 2022)
Ex-officio

Head of Academic Resources
Paul Crosby*
Joel Newman
Ex-officio

Head of Communications
Ryan Dillon
Ex-officio

Head of Human Resources
Tehmina Mahmood
Ex-officio

Head of Estates and Facilities
Anita Pfauntsch
Ex-officio

Head of Public Engagement
Manijeh Verghese
Ex-officio

Chief Technology Officer
Tiger Wang
Ex-officio

Administrator
Roberta Jenkins
Ex-officio

Academic Resources Team (ART)

Chair of ART/
Head of Academic Resources
Paul Crosby*
Joel Newman
Ex-officio

Administrator to the ART/
Assistant to the School Director
Roberta Jenkins
Ex-officio

Head of Photo Studio
Sue Barr
Ex-officio

Head of Library
Eleanor Gawne
Ex-officio

Head of Workshop
William Fausset
Ex-officio

Head of Audio Visual
Joel Newman*
Thomas Parkes
Ex-officio

Head of Model Workshop
Trystrem Smith
Ex-officio

Head of Digital Prototyping Lab
Angel Lara-Moreira
Ex-officio

Head of Archives
Edward Bottoms
Ex-officio

Chief Technology Officer
Tiger Wang
Attending

Head of IT
Julia Frazer
Attending

Deputy Head of IT
Mattie Bielecki
Attending

Public Engagement Team (PET)

Chair of PET/
Head of Public Engagement
Manijeh Verghese
Ex-officio

Administrator of PET/
Public Programme Co-ordinator
Catherine Antoni
Ex-officio

Administrator of PET/
Public Programme Co-ordinator
Rajwant Kaur Singh*
(Resigned 31 December 2021)
Ex-officio

Administrator of PET/
Senior Public Programme
Co-ordinator
Harriet Jennings
Ex-officio

Head of Membership
Alex Lorente
Ex-officio

Head of Outreach Activities
Anna Chantarasak
Ex-officio

Careers Officer
Stuart Croxford
Ex-officio

AA Bookshop Manager/
Publications Distribution Manager
Andrew Whittaker
Ex-officio

Bookshop Assistant Manager
Isabel Hardingham
Ex-officio

Membership and Alumni
Co-ordinator
Julie Olusegun
Ex-officio

Head of Communications
Ryan Dillon
Ex-officio

Communications Editorial Assistant
Anna Lisa Reynolds
Ex-officio

Digital Content Editor
Daniel Mackenzie
Ex-officio

Graphic Designer
Wai Hon Chan*
(Resigned 25 October 2022)
Ex-officio

Junior Graphic Designer
Caspar Bailey
Ex-officio

Head of Archives
Edward Bottoms
Attending

Head of Academic Resources
Joel Newman
Attending

Head of Audio-Visual
Joel Newman*
Thomas Parkes
Attending

Audio Visual and Media Technician
Ben Ibbotson
Attending

Head of Catering
Pascal Babeau
Attending

Assistant to the School Director
Roberta Jenkins
Attending

Head of Digital Platforms
Geoff Moss
Attending

Visiting School Co-ordinator/
International Engagement Officer
Beatriz Chivite
Attending

Visiting School Co-ordinator
Jolene Malek
Attending

* indicates a staff member who
resigned or changed roles during the
year

Architectural Association
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