Interior Architecture and Environmental Design

Lecture: Reflective Narrative on Cross-pollination between Research and Innovative Teaching for Optimising Contemporary Design Pedagogy

Date & Time: 28 May 2021, 12.30pm.

Speaker: Dr. Naima Iftikhar

Bio: Dr. Naima Iftikhar is registered as an architect with PCATP, in Pakistan, now based in Queensland Australia. She has a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Architectural Design from Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia. She is currently a Post-doctoral Research Associate on IHub’s Integrated Design Studio (IDS) research project for sustainable outcomes of mixed-use buildings in tropical and subtropical climates and a Sessional Academic at QUT’s School of Architecture and Built Environment. Her design practise primarily centres around residential minimal footprint designs. She is a committee member for EmAGN (Emerging Architects and Graduates Network) Qld, at the Royal Australian Institute of Architects working on advocacy initiatives for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. She has dedicatedly taught several design studios and theoretical units at the international level in architectural, interior and furniture design schools for 7 years. Her passion for effective design learning and teaching inspires her research about optimising design pedagogy in the Australasian Schools of Architecture context. She has particular interests in teaching and research about enhancing learners’ experiences for design studios, creative visualisation, contemporary issues, systems integration and academic writing. She has authored formal articles on various matters in architectural magazines and presented her research findings at international forums. Her learning and teaching practice has been recognised internationally through the Highly commendable STARS (Sessional Teaching and Reflection Showcase) Award in 2017 and the Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy, UK (AFHEA). As an International SAS (Sessional Academic Success Advisor) for the LTU (Learning and Teaching Unit) Chancellery, QUT, She has trained several International sessional academics from all faculties to accomplish and excel their learning and teaching goals. Her teaching philosophy aspires to facilitate and foster each individual design student’s learning journey to sensibly impact our social and ecological systems as future designers.

Abstract: In this seminar talk, Dr. Naima Iftikhar will present a synthesised overview of her research and pedagogical facets related to optimising design learning and teaching using different typologies of design studio models in international contexts. The research, Dr. Naima Iftikhar conducted, on developing an Australasian architectural design studio learning and teaching model will inform the audience of how students learn the design process and what roles and forms of interactions between learners and teachers need to be enacted to make the contemporary studio pedagogy effective using Dianna Laurillard’s Conversational Framework. Furthermore, her current research related to the Integrated Design Studio Model (IDS) will be presented where interdisciplinary pedagogical approaches can inform sustainable building design outcomes for the real-world. Dr. Naima Iftikhar will share her experience of supporting and facilitating the learning and teaching journeys of more than 2500 spatial design students and 300 international teachers in 7 years of her professional experience – a practice grounded in innovation and exploration.