

Editorial

This year sees the 70th anniversary of architectural engineering education in Slovakia since the establishment of the Institute of Architecture and Civil Engineering after the WWII in 1946. The University was established before WWII in 1937. Architectural studies were carried out in the Faculty of Architecture and Construction Engineering established in 1950, and in 1976 it was moved to the separate Faculty of Architecture, which this year celebrates its 40th year of operation.

With the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the WIETE and the Faculty of Architecture at Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (FA-SUT) in September 2015, the Faculty has become a partner institution of the WIETE. It is, therefore, our strong desire this year to celebrate these two important anniversaries of our Slovak friends by publicising and promoting their research, development and educational achievements through our media, and this journal, in particular.

The programme of our WIETE Annual Conference to be held in Athens, Greece, early next month includes a special session entitled: *Research and development activities in engineering and technology education in the Faculty of Architecture at Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia - some examples* to be chaired and moderated by Professor Ľubica Vitkova, Dean and Professor Robert Špaček, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Architecture. There will be three presentations during the session. These are entitled: *The importance of teaching of urbanism in the education of architects* by L. Vitkova; *Sketching and drawing in the new age - the role of sketching and drawing in architectural and technical education* by R. Špaček, M. Peciar and L. Šíp; and *Workshop as a tool in architectural education* by K. Smatanová and A. Dubovcová.

We have made an editorial decision to publish a number of articles authored by academic staff members of the Faculty of Architecture in this 2016 Volume of the GJEE. In this issue of the GJEE, marked Vol.18, No.1, readers will find the opening article entitled *Architectural education at Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava* co-authored by R. Špaček, Ľ. Vitková and L. Šíp. Apart from giving an account of the development of the Faculty of Architecture throughout the years of its existence, this paper outlines the philosophical considerations lying at the very foundation of architectural education, and provides examples of students' projects and their execution. Six articles have been included in this issue coming from authors in Australia, Colombia, Poland, Slovakia and the United States of America (2). It is hoped that forthcoming issues of the GJEE, will see more articles from scholars from the Faculty of Architecture at Slovak University of Technology.

I would like to express our thanks to the authors of these articles, and to members of the WIETE editorial team Dr Dianne Q. Nguyen, Mrs Dorota I. Pudlowski, Ms Krystyna B. Wareing and Dr Ian R. Dobson for their assistance in the preparation of this issue, as well as for the support received from the referees for their outstanding and timely academic review of the articles.

Last but not least, I believe that on this memorable occasion, readers will join me in wishing members of the Faculty of Architecture at SUT all the best in their academic endeavours and success in bringing up a new breed of modern architects.

Zenon J. Pudlowski