Paveshare

Recipient: University of Georgia Research Foundation
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Fact Sheet 2

Background and Need

PAVESHARE

A Resource for Landscape Architecture Students and Professionals

Welcome to PaveShare, a resource focused on design education from the perspective of segmental concrete pavements. PaveShare seeks to inspire design thinking and provide technical know-how through a wide range of curriculum materials, presentations, interactive animations, and studio projects. Students can explore design ideas using the library, curriculum paths, or simply by jumping to topics of interest. Educators can use this site to supplement their existing curricula.

A need arose in 2009 to develop a curriculum for landscape architecture students and professors. This need followed from holding several successful workshops with civil engineering professors on introducing a curriculum developed for ICPI by the University of Waterloo civil engineering department in 2006. Since a curriculum for engineering students was created, another was needed for universities teaching landscape architecture. Requests for proposals were then issued and the University of Georgia College of Environment and Design was selected from several. The project was funded by excess sponsor revenue from the 8th International Conference on Concrete Block Paving hosted by the ICPI Foundation in 2006.

Project Objectives

The College developed a web-based resource that featured lecture presentations, quizzes, studio projects, case studies, animations and links to ICPI resources. The site, www.paveshare.org, included a place for students to upload projects (vetted by ICPI staff) with segmental concrete pavements. Website development was created by students at the College with input from landscape architecture professors. The content included the following learning modules

Overview Modules: Past History, Present Uses, Future Uses

Technical Modules: Paving Materials; Environmental Considerations including sustainable evaluation systems and life cycle assessment; Traffic & Structural Design Considerations

Design Studio Modules: Small scale - residential design exercises; Medium scale - neighborhood design exercises; Large scale - urban design exercises

Each module includes instructor guides. Instructors may moderate discussions, assist in online navigation or download and utilize offline materials such as exercises and presentations. This approach enables instructors to have flexibility in use and timing of content incorporation.

Depending on an instructor's assessment of student capabilities, motivation and interests, design exercises can be moderated and guided by the instructor or simply assigned. The site also includes a glossary of key terms and a list of resources available from other organizations.

The curriculum was critiqued by Canadian landscape architecture professors to help ensure its use among Canadian as well as U.S. university landscape architecture programs. The curriculum also included materials from a 1990 course developed by architects Gary Day and Anton Harfmann from the College of Architecture at the State University of New York in Buffalo.

Outcomes

Website delivery was further influenced during a presentation at Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) annual conference in 2012 at the University of Illinois. Faculty from Boston Architectural College was present at a session in which Paveshare was presented. Impressed by the site, he emphatically noted it should be marketed directly to landscape architecture students. That includes approximately 25,000 students in about 75 accredited university landscape architecture programs in Canada and the United States. He discouraged trying to convince university professors to accept a ready-made curriculum package on segmental concrete pavement because each faculty concentrates efforts on creating a unique curriculum. Instead, the he noted that the site has the highest value to landscape architecture *students* as a resource while working in university design studios and classes.

With that target audience in mind, Paveshare.org was hosted on Land8's (Land8 Media LLC) website in 2017, as it has a significant student following (about 4,000 then) via blogs and other social media, podcasts and webinars. From April 2018 to January 2019, Paveshare.org received more than 25,000 visitors with the average visit of 11.6 pages. ICPI has since included maintenance of this website in its annual budget.