EAAE-ENHSA Sub-network Workshop on Conservation

coordinator: Stefano F. Musso

Genoa (ITALY), 18-20 October 2007 - Faculty of Architecture of the University of Genoa - Stradone di S. Agostino, 37

Teaching Conservation/Restoration of the Architectural Heritage
Goals, Contents and Methods

Acropolis Museum- Athens
The workshop constitutes a further initiative and a new start of the Thematic Sub-Network on Conservation within the EAAE and ENHSA and it will be the occasion to bring together educators in conservation from various European Schools of Architecture so that:
- they can investigate similarities and differences in the contents and pedagogy of teaching within the field of conservation/restoration of architectural heritage;
- they can examine the ways in which the teaching of conservation/restoration fits into the curricula of different schools;
- they can critically compare educational objectives and strategies implemented by the schools in relation to conservation/restoration teaching;
- they can exchange ideas and thoughts on new teaching methods and discuss the role of the teaching conservation/restoration for an architect.

Preliminary programme

Section 1. What is thought and taught about conservation/restoration and why?
Thursday afternoon, 18 October 2007 - 3 to 7 p.m.
This section will deal with the contents of teaching within the wide field of conservation of our architectural heritage trying to clarify the boundaries and the limits of what we intend for “heritage” and the interpretations we have of ideas, concepts and activities identified by the words: preservation, conservation, restoration, etc. What do we teach in this field at a school of architecture? Which themes do we choose? What are the priorities we set about them? Which are the theoretical and technical principles that rule the organization of conservation/restoration subjects? Which are our educational objectives when we design and manage these school matters?

Section 2. How do we teach conservation/restoration?
Friday morning, 19 October 2007 - 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
This section deals with the pedagogy in the teaching of conservation/restoration, not only in terms of knowledge transfer but also considering the synergies with other subjects that are part of the curricula for an architect. The emphasis must be set both on theoretical and operative teaching. Could the care and restoration of our heritage be taught in a design studio? What is the role of other subjects in our teaching activities? What of the so-called “humanities”? And that of the various “scientific and technical contributions”? Is our teaching activity mainly intended to create competences and abilities, “to know”, “to understand” and “to judge” (analysis, diagnosis, etc.), or does it also aim to create the capability “to do” (design, intervention, management, etc.)?

Section 3. Who teaches conservation/restoration?
Friday afternoon, 19 October 2007 - 3 to 7 p.m.
This section would investigate to discover who teaches the subjects we are dealing with in our schools of architecture. What should be the teacher’s background in this field, in order to enable her/him to reach the goals of her/his job? What kind of experience should she/he have? What is the situation of the schools of architecture today in relation to these themes and issues? How do colleagues teaching different subjects collaborate on developing the teaching and formative activity in the complex field of conservation/restoration?

Section 4. When and to what extent do we teach conservation/restoration?
Saturday morning, 20 October 2007 - 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
This section will discuss the distribution of teaching in the duration and organization of the curricula to become an architect. How does this distribution occur? In what year and in which kind of curriculum should the themes related to conservation and restoration be introduced and to what extent? How far should these subjects go in a school of architecture? How will different subjects in this complex thematic field be prioritized? How will our teaching be related to the teaching of other subjects in architectural education?

Closing Section. Perspectives and expected reforms.
Saturday afternoon, 20 October 2007 - 3 to 5:30 p.m.
This section will attempt to make a synthesis of all the previous sections, in order to draw some conclusions about the directions in which the schools of architecture can move, the emerging models applied in the pedagogy of the subjects related to conservation/restoration, or a way of mapping these models. In the context of this discussion, the sub-network of conservation teachers will as well discuss its future activities.

Key-note speakers (provisional list)
- B. Paolo Torsello: Founder and past Director of the Specialization School in Restoration of Monuments - University of Genoa (Italy)
- Caterina Bon Valvassina: Director of the Central Institute for Restoration in Rome - Ministry of Cultural Goods and Activities (Italy)
- Stefano Della Torre: Professor of Architectural Restoration - Scuol of Architecture of the Milan Polytechnic - Campus Leonardo (Italy)
- Carolina Di Biase: Professor of Architectural Restoration - Scuol of Architecture of the Milan Polytechnic - Master program of Mantova (Italy)
- André De Nayer: Professor Director of the Master Program in Conservation - Hogheschool "Van de Velde" in Antwerp (Belgium)
- Loughlin Kealy: Professor of Architecture and Conservation - School of Architecture - University College of Dublin (Ireland)
- Herb Stovel: former Director of ICCROM's Heritage Settlements Unit - Coordinator of the Heritage Conservation Programme - Carleton University Ottawa (Canada)

For the posters: each participant can send her/his paper, about one or more topics, in .doc or .pdf format, not exceeding 20,000 characters and 10 pages in A4 format. Papers can contain B/W or colour images, in JPG format and 300 DPI, which should be included in the allowed number of pages.

For the posters: the texts of the posters should have a concise form, describing the answers that the schools give to the four questions of the workshop. Every school will describe their teaching of conservation/restoration on two ISO A1 (22.4 x 33.1 inches / 594 x 841 mm) posters as maximum, in portrait format. Each of them must include the name of the school and the country of origin, in block capitals. It would be convenient if the answers to the questions follow the sequence indicated by the programme of the workshop.

For any information you can consult the Web site of the EAAE (http://www.eaae.be) and download all the documents related to the workshop (Invitation letter, Call for participation and Registration Form)

Please, send all the materials (posters and papers), as any information request, to: Arch. Luisa De Marco at the following e-mail address: conservation07@arch.unige.it - not later than September 15, 2007.

The final program and any information to reach the venue will be send until the end of September to all the participants.