

**Professional scientific sessions for art, architecture and urban planning Thursday evenings**

**Held in: Conference hall of Herampey Consulting Engineers**

**Date: 21.08.2014**

**Title: Instruction in architecture**

**Speakers and panel members: Mr. A. S. Samiee, Mr. H. A. Ghaffari**

A summary of the speeches are presented:

The first speaker was Mr. A. S. Samiee, who began his speech talking the instruction in architecture route, precedent the years of the Islamic revolution (1979). He started his story telling that the university of fine arts in Tehran was established by A. Godart and two other his assistants, encouraged by Mr. Eng. Forughi. The teaching methods were very similar to what was usual in the university of fine arts of Paris (beaux arts). In the beginning the candidate student held an exam that included theoretical and design notions, that the design was more considered for the final result of the exam. After the admission to the University during the first year the student studied under the supervision of an older student that was relatively more experienced (they were called the older generation). After the first year the student began small design experiences, designing columns and passing to more exacting projects, like the design of temples. The following step regarded the architectural composition that included a precise architectural style that the student had to present. The student had to practice and show his abilities in decoration and free hand sketches, making 1:10 precise drawings and also technical design detailed drawings. This phase was considered the end of the baccalaureate and the beginning of master stage. After the overcoming of the technical design exam the student was already considered architect, habilitated to start his professional activity in the architectural offices.

The second speaker was Mr. H. A. Ghaffari who talked about the instruction in architecture during the post Islamic revolution years. He pointed to the foundation of the universities of architecture, when the relations with the foreign countries failed and the religious chiefs decided to begin a new instruction route that aimed to establish a national and independent instruction policy. The first result of this policy was the establishment of the Islamic Azad University, followed by other higher educational institutions, that usually were not provided by the necessary

facilities to realize an appropriate educational formation, like educational spaces, libraries, meeting halls, café bars...Continuing his speech Mr. Ghaffari said that actually there not exist precise parameters to define the capable students in architecture, because the practice of free hand sketches has been excluded, and what is more worrying is that during the baccalaureate the students see 4 or 5 projects, meanwhile during the pre-revolution years the students knew 600-700 projects, making also 400-500 free hand sketches and decoration practices. In his opinion actually the university boards have problems regarding the instruction route programming, the organization of practice workshops and educational journeys, in Iran or abroad. Mr. Ghaffari thinks that to improve the quality of instruction, the theoretical units must be improved and completed, the educational staff must be better prepared and the educational program must follow and correspond to the needs of the modern society, so the instruction can satisfy the society's needs.