

# ***BAMBOO CITY***

## ***POROSITY STUDIO 2012***

**UNIVERSITY OF NSW COFA**  
**&**  
**TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY BEIJING**

### **Introduction**

Professor Richard Goodwin has been using multi-disciplinary international studios as a way of teaching since 2004 when he conducted the first such studio at Tsinghua University. To date these studios have visited Milan, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Rotterdam, Beijing and Shanghai. This proposal represents the 10th studio in a remarkable series. Each studio involved up to 60 students, 30 from each country, and lasted for 2 weeks. All studios also resulted in a publication funded by UNSW COFA or in two cases The British Council and a major exhibition. Students attending these courses were fully accredited with academic points as part of their regular studies or as an elective.

This proposal is for a studio, which will form part of the Architectural Construction course for 3<sup>rd</sup> year Interior design students from Tsinghua, but will also fit well within the programs for design and fine arts students from UNSW COFA.

We envisage bringing 23 students from COFA to work with your class of approximately the same number, and for them to live on campus at Tsinghua University.

### **Concept**

The central idea of this studio is to build a small bamboo scaffolding city, with cooking and sleeping facilities, within the university grounds. Limited to 2 storeys in height the students will design, model and construct frameworks of bamboo as their core structure and then improvise to create shelter and amenity, including a street culture, in which they can survive for a short period of time. Although employing ancient materials and techniques the skills associated with design, technology and collaboration will be highly sophisticated.

The site can be situated with the corner of a park or roadside landscape, which I know exists on campus at Tsinghua from my previous visits.

The project does require a budget for the bamboo scaffolding and the hiring of equipment, however most of this material could be re-cycled.

The requirement that this new street is to have small restaurants and shelter will demand a high level of technical skill and social interaction.

The project will also draw focus on sustainable design, interior design, architecture and art through its expression and design intentions.

It would be great to make both a film and book of this event to form part of an international exhibition.