

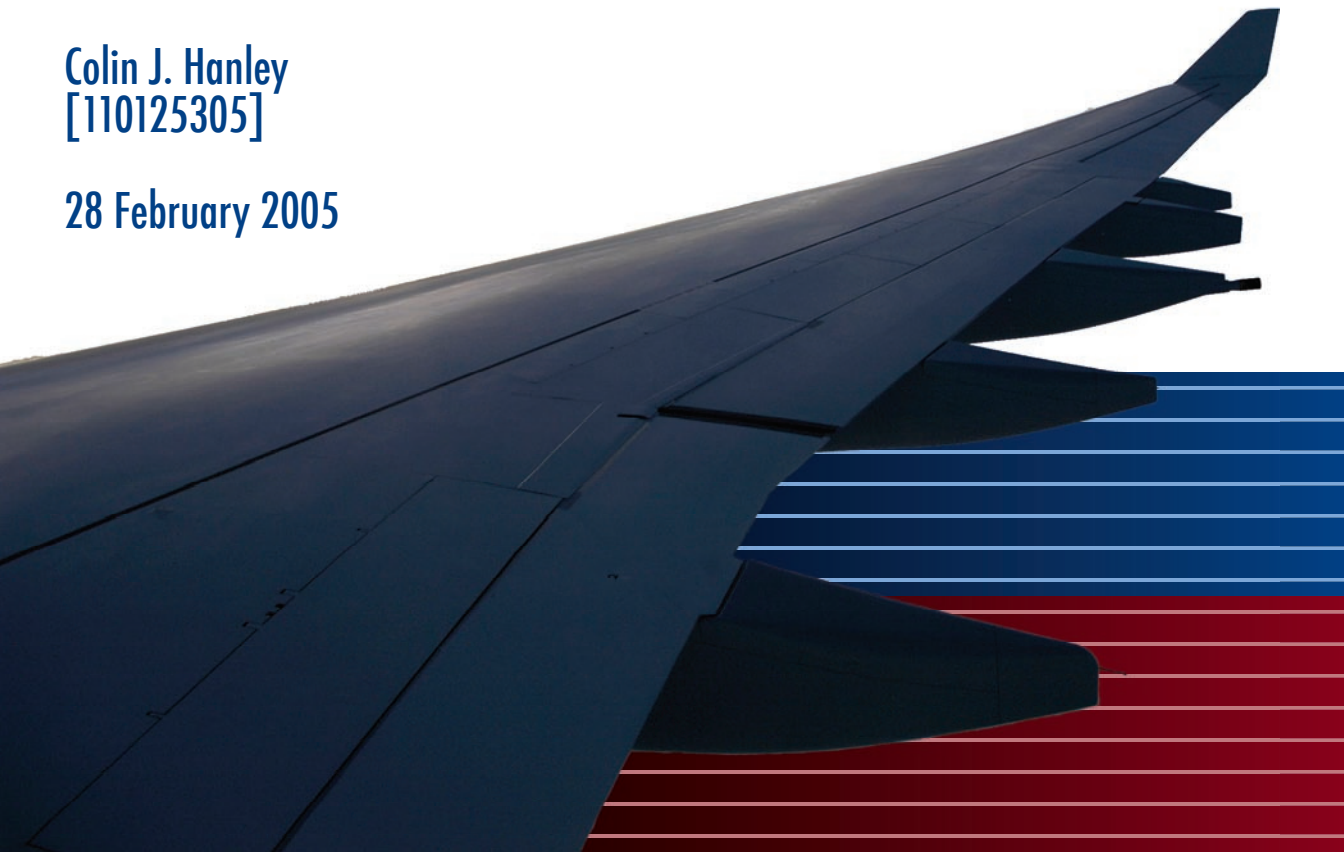
# Flight ↔ Connection ↔ City

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Dr. Soo Kim Lan Prize in Architecture  
Travelling Scholarship Proposal

Colin J. Hanley  
[110125305]

28 February 2005



# Flight ↔ Connection ↔ City



Dr. Soo Kim Lan Prize in Architecture  
Travelling Scholarship Proposal



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Scholarships Selection Committee  
School of Architecture, McGill University  
Macdonald Harrington Building  
815, Sherbrooke Street West  
Montréal (Québec) H3A 2K6

RE: Dr. Soo Kim Lan Prize in Architecture  
Travelling Scholarship Proposal

28 February 2005

Dear Members of the Committee,

I would like to submit my proposal for the Dr. Soo Kim Lan Prize in Architecture. My proposal involves travel to up to eight Asian cities, of which four are located in China, in order to visit a significant recent airport in each of the cities. My experiential evaluation of these airports — namely their design and their connection with the city — will be used to guide and enrich my design work in the final Master of Architecture thesis studio.

I realize that the scope of this proposal is quite significant, especially in terms of the cost of air travel. As such, I am hopeful to receive funding from the School of Architecture, through the Dr. Soo Kim Lan Prize in Architecture, and from outside sources, to which I am concurrently applying for support. Further, as it is my intention to work in the Pacific region this summer, I would already be travelling to the area. As such, the travelling scholarship would go towards the cost of travel within Asia, rather than covering the cost of getting to Asia.

I trust that the Members of the Committee will recognize my ability, my academic achievements and my enthusiasm and, thus, approve the support that I believe this proposal warrants.

Respectfully yours,



Colin J. Hanley

# Flight ↔ Connection ↔ City

What is the purpose of an airport? Is it to serve the residents of the city in which it is located, or rather to serve the passengers connecting through the airport?

Further, at what point has one “arrived” at a destination: when the airplane touches down, or when the taxi arrives downtown, or somewhere in between?

At what point can one claim to have visited a city? Is being in transit visiting a city?

What is the future of airports? How do architects see the future?

The world’s architects and planners are increasingly treating the airport not as a separate entity but as just another part of the urban condition. [...] The task now is to design effectively for the whole physical, environmental and emotional experience of the airport over a wide area.

(Pearman, 236)

The airport and the city: their levels of interdependence have fluctuated greatly over the past century.

In one sense, the airport is a very urban project. In the past, a city’s size frequently dictated the importance of its airport, and the growth of an airport was often tied

to its host’s growth. However, physically, the airport is commonly the antithesis to the city. The vast expanses of land required, the exhaustive pollution and the deafening noise of air traffic have all pushed the airport to a city’s edge, and often far beyond its boundaries.

Yet what are the current trends in air transportation and airport design? And where does the idea of city fit into the current model?

With the massive expansion of Asian markets over the past few decades, air travel in the region has been steadily

gaining ground. This growth has led to the construction of numerous new or expanded international airports over the past ten years. Indeed, the most recent wave of airport construction has been concentrated in Asia. Each country, and each city in many cases, has been jockeying for position as the main hub for Asian air transportation.

However, the goal of maximizing passenger numbers nuances the importance of the connection between the city and the airport. Indeed, such a focus raises numerous questions about the design, the urbanity and site specificity of the airport. These issues must be studied and addressed.

As such, the evaluation of various ways of integrating the airport landscape within its urban connection is the primary focus of the proposed research. This project will involve visiting a number of recent Asian international airports in order to gain some insight into the current role of the city in airport design.

This study will involve some preliminary research regarding the intent and design of the airport. However, the bulk of evaluation will be based on an experiential review of as many airports that time and resources permit. The experience will be studied, from landing through to arrival in the city centre, and again from leaving the city to take-off.

It is intended to complete the research by visiting the selected airports during the month of May 2005.

Among others, the following elements of the airport and its design will be studied:

#### Location

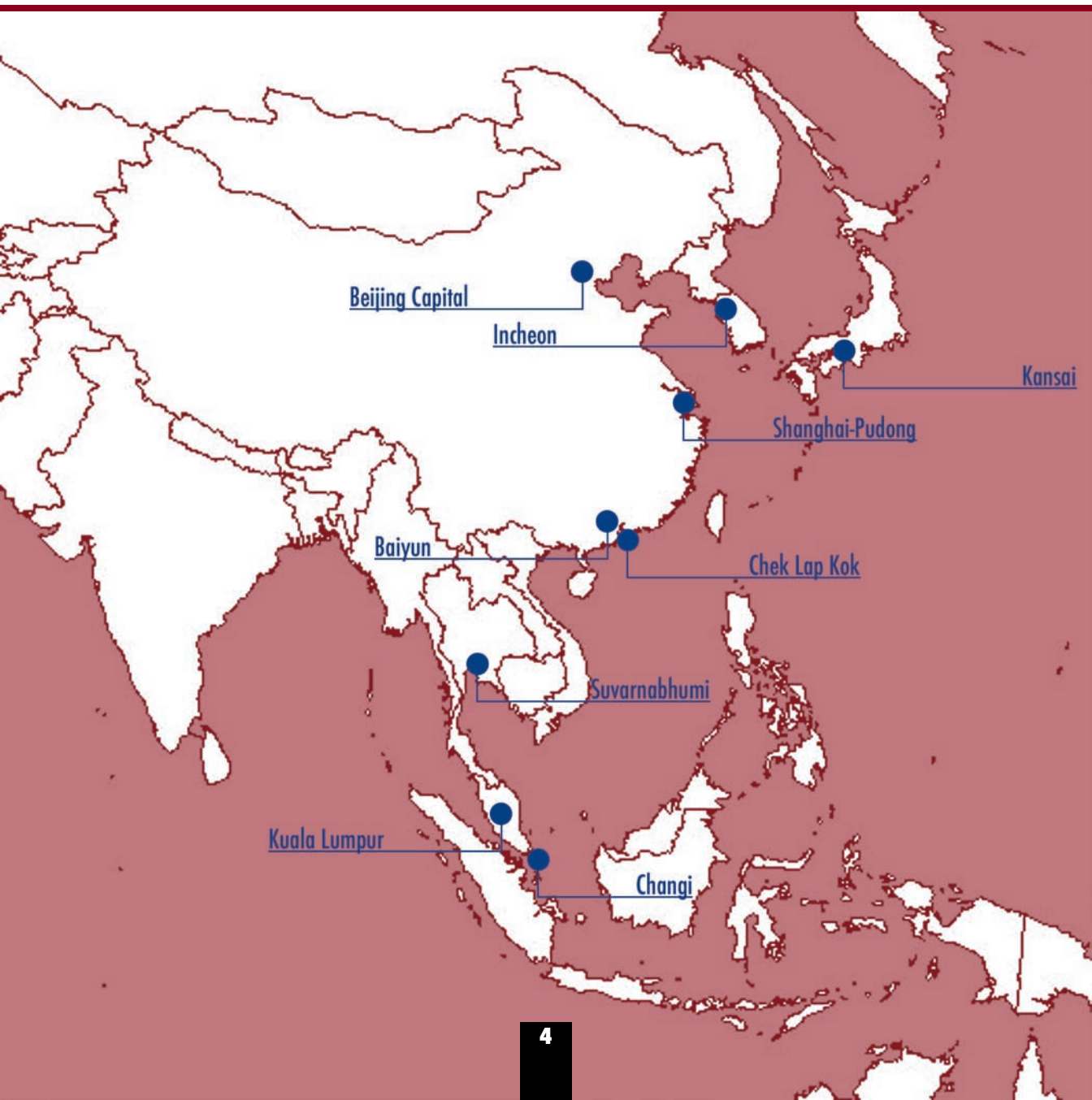
- > Proximity to City Centre
- > Urban Expression
- > Transport Connectivity
- > Airport Approach (by air)
- > Airport Approach (by ground)
- > City Approach

#### Architectural Expression

- > Conceptual Intention
- > Form
- > Orientation
- > Structure
- > Materiality
- > Integration of Technology
- > Local Tastes, Traditions & Building Culture

#### Programming

- > Efficiency of Flows
- > Efficiency of Service
- > Efficiency of Connections (air, ground)
- > Airside vs Landside Treatment
- > In Transit vs Arrivals Treatment



The following airports have been selected as potential sites to visit. The choice of airports was based one or more of the following aspects: the scale of the airport (building size and traffic volumes), the size of the city served, the age of the airport and the project's architect. It is by no means an exhaustive list of significant Asian airports, but it is intended to adequately represent recent trends in airport development in the region.

The actual number and choice of airports visited will depend on the level of support received, as well as the availability and cost of flights in the region.

Kansai International Airport (1994)  
Osaka, Japan  
Architect: Renzo Piano, ADP, Noriaki Okabe

Incheon International Airport (2001)  
Seoul, South Korea  
Architect: Fentress Bradburn

Chek Lap Kok Airport (1998)  
Hong Kong, China  
Architect: Foster and Partners

Changi International Airport, Terminal 3 (2003)  
Singapore, Singapore  
Architect: SOM

Kuala Lumpur Airport (1998)  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Architect: Kisho Kurokawa Architect, Arkitek Jururancag

Canton Baiyun Airport (2004)  
Guangzhou, China  
Architect: Parson, URS Corporation

Beijing Capital International Airport (1999, 2004)  
Beijing, China  
Architect: Beijing Institute of Architecture and Design

\*Suvarnabhumi Airport (2005)  
Bangkok, Thailand  
Architect: Murphy/Jahn, TAMS, ACT

Shanghai-Pudong Airport (1999)  
Shanghai, China  
Architect: Paul Andreu/ADP

\*Beijing Capital International Airport, Terminal 3 (2007)  
Beijing, China  
Architect: Foster and Partners

\* indicates an airport under development, which will not be ready in time for the proposed trip. Nevertheless, the projects will still be studied by means of a literature review and such findings will be included in the final report.



## Colin J. Hanley

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### Personal Information

Date of Birth

12 August 1982

Citizenship

Canadian

### Languages

Written & Spoken

English, French

### Education

2001 - present

School of Architecture, McGill University

815, Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal (Québec) H3A 2K6 • CANADA

- Master of Architecture, expected, December 2005
- Bachelor of Science (Architecture) June 2004

March - July 2003

Student exchange program – Architecture Program,

Faculty of the Built Environment, University of New South Wales

UNSW, Sydney (New South Wales) 2052 • AUSTRALIA

1999 - 2001

Marianopolis College

3800, Côte-des-Neiges, Montréal (Québec) H3H 1W1 • CANADA

- Diploma of Collegiate Studies, Pure & Applied Sciences

1994 - 1999

Macdonald Cartier High School

7445, chemin de Chambly, Saint-Hubert (Québec) J3Y 3S3 • CANADA

- Diploma of Secondary Studies
- International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program Diploma



**Work Experience**

July - August 2004

Student Intern, Rickson Outhet Architect, Ottawa (Ontario)

June - August 2002

Research Assistant, "West Island" Research Project  
Department of Geography, Schools of Architecture and Urban Planning, McGill University

June 2000 - May 2002

Research Assistant, "Medical Office of the XXIst Century" Research Project  
Division of Clinical Epidemiology, Royal Victoria Hospital, McGill University**Computer Skills**

Operating Systems

Macintosh OS X, 9; Windows 98 / NT / ME / 2000 / XP

Suite software

Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook / Entourage)

Graphics &amp; Layout

Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign / PageMaker; Lemke GraphicConverter

CAD / 3D Modeling

Autodesk AutoCAD, Graphisoft ArchiCAD, Autodesk 3D Studio Max, SketchUp

**Awards**

2004

Wilfred Truman Shaver Scholarship, McGill University School of Architecture  
Traveling Scholarship: Milan - Rome, Italy – 07-21 May 2004

2003

Clifford C. Wong Scholarship in Architecture, McGill University School of Architecture

2003

Scholarship for First Professional Degree Candidates,  
American Institute of Architects / American Architectural Foundation

2002

Favretto Scholarship in Architecture, McGill University School of Architecture

2001

Local Excellence Award, Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation

**Extracurricular Activities**

2003 - 2004

President, Architecture Students' Association, McGill University

2002 - 2003

Vice-President (Finance), Architecture Students' Association, McGill University

2001 - 2002

Director of Referees, Association de soccer de Saint-Lambert

1999 - 2001

Layout Editor, "The PaperCut," Marianopolis College newspaper

2000

Participant, Shad Valley Calgary – Summer Science, Technology and  
Entrepreneurship Program, University of Calgary

1998 - 1999

Student Council President, Macdonald Cartier High School

- Arai, Yoichi. (1996). The World Airports: International Airports and their Commercial Facilities. Japan: Digital Manga Inc.
- Binney, Marcus. (1999). Airport Builders. West Sussex, England: Academy Editions.
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- Toy, Maggie [ed.]. (May-June 1994). Architecture of Transportation. Architectural Design, 64:5/6.
- Wombell, Paul et al. (1997). The Most Important Buildings of the Twentieth Century: Airport. London: The Photographers' Gallery.



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