Research Activity

The Bouncing Back research project started as a response to the Queensland Floods of January 2011, and initially provided an opportunity for students to consider the importance of Flood Responsive Design as a part of their core curriculum design units.

The project developed and morphed throughout the year, resulting in several Exhibitions of student work and the physical construction of an Emergency Shelter (Modulo) by 10 Architecture Students, at Customs House in Circular Quay, Sydney. The Modulo Shelter was designed by our Industry Partner, John Tuxworth - Director of BeCollective. In addition to this, we have also presented an Academic Paper at the AASA 2011 conference, in Geelong.

The current phase of this project is the production of a Documentary on the student experience throughout the Bouncing Back research project. The targeted audience will by members of the Brisbane design and construction industries, in addition to the general public, at the opening of the Emergency Shelter Exhibition in Brisbane, July 2012.

Throughout Bouncing Back research project, we have examined the Role of Design and Making, in Understanding and Dealing with Adversity. The anticipated impact of this research will be Community Engagement with the School of Design’s emerging research into Humanitarian and Sustainable Design for Adverse Conditions.

Research Output to Date


Caldwell, G., & Osborne, L. (2011) Bouncing Back: The role of design in facilitating students to understand and deal with adversity. In 2011 International Conference of the Association of Architecture Schools of Australasia (AASA), 18 -21 September 2011, Deakin University, Geelong, VIC.