



To:  
Russell Kennedy David Lancashire > The Board of ICOGRADA

Dr. Norman Sheehan

### Respect

What follows started as a summary document providing an end bracket to a personal journey - it is now offered for your consideration as a credo. Slightly too long and convoluted perhaps, this interior conversation. does it's best to explain the author to others - and the journey as an end.

The journey when it began had no goal, only to identify a single minded purpose for an autonomous human entity – A.F.Ward. As recently as yesterday he hadn't found the courage to settle for a single word . The word has always been on the tip of his tongue tangible but always elusive . In morning sun on a path by the Yarra the word was simply given to him by Dr. Norman Sheehan - Respect.. Norm shared it with the group there as it had been shared with him, counselling it was our human responsibility to share it with others .

As every day reflects a lifetime journey and every life is a microcosm of life itself - the repeating pattern of all our days is annotated by often unnoticed redirections that deliver the traveller not to a new end point –but a new vantage point for the following day. Unplanned but welcome, new beginnings for this traveller seem to inexorably be building their change into his future .

Which of the small changes in direction over the last 12 months that have impacted on the writer's final destination are now understandable as he find's himself readying to relocate to Kuching in 2011 , having when there, identified a renewed purpose in being an educator with a committed allegiance to that most human purpose - design - displacing the demanding, often bewilderingly complex pursuit of corporate compliance. To have gained this renewed sense of purpose and to eschew the supportive respect and wisdom of others in fulfilling it - is in conflict with Common Sense - the shared awareness – that against all odds remains able still to balance fragile human existence against self annihilation.

This beginning conversation - in the space opened by a long (human)relationship with David Lancashire is now expanding through Russell Kennedy to encompass the prospect of a new landscape with and through the presence of INDIGO/ICOGRADA. To fulfil the journey with respect for and from good companions is the imperative.

Where then does this (design)educator stand in his relation to the (design)educatee?. Out in front - calling to be followed on towards future ends that only he fully comprehends? Or down amongst the learners professing to be a peer with insight into of what lies ahead? His experience of two months in that good place called Kuching, confirmed for this hoary old practitioner that the best place for him is way, way back where the seekers started from. Gently nudging them towards the life goals they aspire to. Gently nagging them about the worth of the Language they were born into and too quickly presume is not needed on the voyage – encouraging, nurturing the core belief in each of them of the worth of this vulnerable, fragile essence – sure of its absolute necessity - for the sake of our future selves.

What is written here is in the author's mother tongue – albeit not the only one he learnt – but the one he trusts most – the one he began with . As he settles back into a familiar aurally defined space - as big as the world he knew in childhood - the pre Gutenberg universe of our ancestors, the seven league boots of our new tools are becoming more comfortable and with the catalyst of respect - harmony in chaos now seems more possible .

Thank you

AFW

Lecturer  
Communication Design  
Swinburne University of Technology  
Melbourne

For a snapshot of the two months in Kuching visit the Public group Design Real Workshop on Facebook  
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=116415215055000>  
and some of the journey that got AFW there in April May 2010 –  
and will see him return in March 2011 at Solvitas Perambulium  
<http://anthonyfward.wordpress.com/>