

**3rd Seminar on Innovation, Science and Technology for Energy-Efficient
Development: Green Buildings**

Profile of Participants

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA

Name: **Cristián Augusto Vela Aquino**
Nationality: **Guatemalan**
Current position: **Director of the Institute for Research in Design and
Architecture**
Institution: **Universidad Rafael Landivar**
Address: **Campus Central, Vista Hermosa III, zona 16, Guatemala**



Small biography

The second of 3 brothers, born in 1968 in Guatemala City. Architect graduated at the Universidad Rafael Landivar, also educated at the universities of Tulane (Louisiana), Gainesville (Florida) and at the Sociedad de Lengua y Cultura Italiana in Rome. He has a Master in Advanced Technology of Architectural Construction, from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, and postgraduate studies in Architecture and Urbanism from Oxford (UK), and Management at Loyola University of Chicago. Member of the firm Associated Architects, with this firm of architects won an Award from the Boston Society of Architects, with the project " Medical Complex The Americas".

A former dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Design at the URL, is currently the director of the Institute for Research in Design and Architecture of this university.

Impact of their work of teaching and / or research

At the Instituto de Investigación en Diseño y Arquitectura (INDIS) research is conducted and projects are developed –ideally in an interdisciplinary way- in the areas of architecture, urbanism, industrial design and graphic design, involving in an active and integral way to the academy, on its edges of research, teaching, and projection. Substantive research is approached with the intention of generating theoretical knowledge about architecture, design and culture, as well as applied research or action research, that aims to generate improvement and welfare in the neediest sectors of the country, through the management and implementation of development projects within a framework of academic outreach to society.

Also, at the INDIS the masters of the School of Architecture and Design are structured, directed and coordinated. On July this year, will be starting the Masters in Ecological Design and Construction that revolves around conceiving architectural design, seeking to optimize natural resources and building systems, to minimize the impact of buildings on the environment and its inhabitants. Knowledge of climate and ecosystem of the building context, energy efficiency, efficiency in water use is emphasized; the use of renewable and non-polluting materials and clean construction processes, among other things, conceived in a framework of ethics and fairness, on the ecological and socio-cultural.