

**ETTY PADMODIPOETRO  
LOEB FELLOW 2006  
VICE PRESIDENT  
ROSALES + PARTNERS,  
TRANSPORTATION DESIGN  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

Etty describes her approach to the Loeb Fellowship as a family project. She and her husband involved their five children in her application and when she was selected they all felt as though they had “won”. Everybody in the family played a role in helping her with her fellowship year.

Because of the reputation of the Loeb Fellowship in Boston, Etty thought she knew what to expect of her Loeb year. But it was much more free-wheeling and liberating than she anticipated. She found herself tagging along with other fellows to courses at the Kennedy School of Government and in the process learned valuable tools about getting things done in the American political and legal systems. “The Kennedy School classes I attended were more about communicating,” she said, “and they gave me a totally new perspective.”

“The sense of freedom to explore anything I was interested in and the time to be reflective were the biggest luxuries for me.” Etty stated. “I had access to anybody I admired. It was awe-inspiring meeting people with similar passions and interests.” She sought out and took a course at MIT from Fred Salvucci, the revered transportation expert.

Because the Big Dig project she worked on for ten years was winding down Etty knew it was time to consciously think through how to make the most of the unique role she had played on the project. She

couldn't see herself return to practicing traditional architecture. She joined on with the highly acclaimed firm of Rosales + Partners after the Loeb Fellowship and is more active now on non-profit boards such as Learning By Design in Massachusetts and Urban Arts that share her interests.

To Etty, the primary value of the Loeb Fellowship has to do with her relationships and friendships with Loeb classmates. She points out this is encouraged and supported by the fellowship management, nicknamed “the government” by Loebers. She also appreciated the direct and open emphasis on diversity in the fellowship. “It's more than just about crossing ethnic and gender boundaries; it's also about breaking professional boundaries.” She observed, “And when I returned home to Indonesia this summer I sought out people there who might benefit from a Loeb experience.”



*“I worked as an architect and urban designer on the Big Dig from its beginning and with the pressure and deadlines there wasn't time to stop and consider the important lessons learned. I thought the Loeb Fellowship could give me that time for analysis and reflection.”*