

# AIA Ohio Valley Region Director and Strategic Council Report

Regional Council Member: Bruce Sekanick AIA OAA

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**AIA Mission Statement:** "The AIA is the voice of the Architectural Profession and a resource for its members in service to society"

**AIA Vision Statement:** "Driving Positive Change through the Power of Design"

The Ohio Valley Region continues to play an important role within the efforts of the AIA to transform the Institute into an organization that better serves our members. The Board has made significant strides in the repositioning effort by establishing and holding the first assembly of the Strategic Council in December. This report is the last report of the Ohio Valley Regional Directors as each of the director position has now become a position on the Strategic Council.

#### **Awards**

The Board of Directors voted at their December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to recognize the following individuals or firms:

Item: Recipient:

Selection of the 2015 The Board selected Moshe Safdie FAIA as the recipient of the 2015 AIA Gold Medal.

Gold Medal and Architecture

Firm Award The Board selected Ehrlich Architects as the recipient of the 2015 AIA Architecture Firm Award

Selection of the 2015 The Board selected Edward Mazria AIA as the recipient of the AIA 2015 Edward C. Kemper Award.

Edward C. Kemper Award

Selection of the AIA 2015 Whitney M. Young Jr. Award Recipient The Board selected Auburn University Rural Studio as the recipient of the AIA 2015 Whitney M. Young Jr. Award

Announcement of the Recipient of the AIA/ACSA 2015 Topaz Medallion for Excellence in Architectural Education Regional Director/Jury Chair Wendy Ornelas, FAIA reported that Peter Eisenman, FAIA, was selected as the recipient of the AIA/ACSA 2015 Topaz Medallion for Excellence in Architectural Education.

## **Management and Operations**

Management Report

EVP/Chief Executive Officer Robert Ivy, FAIA, presented a year-end report on management activities in support of the 2014-2015 Operating Plan. Additionally, he reviewed the Public Awareness plan, and gave an update to the Board on the development of the plan moving into 2015.

Final Discussion and Endorsement/Adoption: 2015 Operating Plan and Budget The Board endorsed the Institute's 2015 Operating Plan, as presented.

The Board adopted the Institute's 2015 Operating Budget, subject to later reconsideration and possible amendment by the Board in response to issues presented at this meeting regarding funding of Emerging Professionals to attend the 2015 Grassroots Leadership Conference.

#### **Digital Transformation**

The Board authorized the EVP/Chief Executive Officer to proceed with the Digital Transformation project, as presented at the meeting.

The Board further authorized the EVP/Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute the necessary supporting contracts, including but not limited to:

- Contracts for the development and launch of pertinent technology platforms;
- Digital consulting contracts;
- Contracts for expert resources required to implement the project;
- Contracts for design and related services; and
- Such other contracts as may be reasonably necessary for the successful completion of the project.

The Board authorized expenditures not to exceed \$9.7 million to fund the contracts specified above. Should additional expenditures be required for that purpose, the EVP/Chief Executive Officer shall request authorization for such additional expenditures from the Board.

Pursuant to its authority under Section 12.35 of the Rules of the Board, the Board directed that funding for the contracts specified above be provided from the Institute's reserves, as appropriate. Periodic withdrawals from such reserves will be conducted in a fiscally sound manner.

Internal staff resources and routine staff supplementation contractors providing services toward the Digital Transformation project will be accounted for in the Institute's operating budget, and will not be counted against the funding limit specified as to outside contracts above.

Lastly, the EVP/Chief Executive Officer will provide periodic reports to the Board concerning the status and conduct of the Digital Transformation project.

Sustainability Scan Progress Report and Recommendations

AIA Resident Fellow Mary Ann Lazarus, FAIA, provided a progress report on the implementation of the AIA Sustainability Leadership Scan and her recommendations for 2015 priorities.

#### Governance

Governance Presentation/Discussion

The Board approved amendments to the AIA Rules of the Board that were presented and amended at the meeting by the Committee of the Whole.

## **Emerging Professionals**

**Emerging Professional Update** 

President Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA, and Associate Director Haley M. Gipe, Assoc. AIA, updated the Board of Directors on recent Emerging Professionals initiatives and provided an outlook for 2015 projects.

## **Bylaws Amendment/MSRTF**

Proposed Bylaws Amendments: MSRTF Recommendations

The motions to sponsor amendments to Sections 4.13 and 4.2 of the Bylaws and present them for consideration by the delegates at the 2015 AIA National Convention were tabled.

#### **New Business**

Approval of AIA/ACSA Practice Excellence Award

The Board approved the reinstatement of the Education Honor Award as the AIA/ACSA Practice Excellence Award, as proposed.

# **Candidates for National Office**

Announcement of Candidates for Election at the 2015 AIA National Convention and Design Exposition

The following members have declared themselves candidates for national office:

2016-2017 Treasurer

AIA Ohio Valley Region, 17 S. High Street, Suite 200, Columbus, OH 43215

Stuart L. Coppedge, AIA

<u>2016-2018 At Large Directors</u> (three will be elected) L. Jane Frederick, FAIA, LEED AP Anthony P. Schirripa, FAIA, IIDA

2016 First Vice President/2017 President-elect Donald C. Brown, FAIA Stephen Fiskum, FAIA

#### **Policies and Positions**

**Approval of Position Statements** 

The AIA Board of Directors authorized the extension, without revision, for three years, commencing December 10, 2014, and ending on December 9, 2017, of the following AIA Position Statements in the AIA Directory of Public Policies and Position Statements, Category III, *The World*:

III. B. 2. Housing

III. B. 4. Historic Preservation

Further, the AIA Board of Directors authorized the proposed revisions, as recommended by the Board Advocacy Committee, to the following AIA Position Statements in the AIA Directory of Public Policies and Position Statements, Category III, *The World*, commencing December 10, 2014, and ending on December 9, 2017:

III. A.1. Civil Rights

III. A. 2. Diversity

III. A. 3. Relationship to National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)

III. B. 1. Accessible Environment

III. B. 3. Livable Communities

III. B. 5. Design Excellence in Publicly Funded Projects Incorporates former III.B.6. "Government Procurement: Stock Plans"

III. C. 1. Sustainable Architectural Practice and the Built Environment Formerly "Energy and the Built Environment"

Incorporates former III.C.2. "Sustainable Built Environment" Incorporates former III.C.3. "Sustainable Architectural Practice"

Incorporates former III.C.4. "Sustainable Building Codes, Standards, and Rating Systems

III.C.2. Energy and the Built Environment (formerly III.C.1)

III. C. 5. Eminent Domain

The Board also authorized the adoption, commencing December 10, 2014, and ending on December 9, 2017, of the following Position Statements in the AIA Directory of Public Policies and Position Statements, Category III, *The World*:

III. B. 6. Design and Health (new III.B.6)

III. C. 3. Materials and the Built Environment (new III.C.3)

III. C. 4. Resilience (new III.C.4)

## **Recognition, Martha Tarrant**

Martha Tarrant AIA was recognized as a departing member of the Board of Directors as a Regional Director for the Ohio Valley Region. Martha served three years on the Board through a period of significant transition to a new governance and operating model for the AIA. Along with other members of the Class of 2014, Martha was recognized by the Board and was recognized as a Richard Upjohn Fellow of the Institute. Martha was also provided with a small gift by the Ohio Valley Region for her service to the OVR.

## **Strategic Council**

As part of the change in governance, all but one of the existing members of the AIA Board of Directors resigned their positions as members of the Board to take on new roles on the new Council. OVR Regional Director Bruce Sekanick AIA resigned his position after two years of service and was recognized as a Richard Upjohn Fellow of the Institute.

The Inaugural Assembly of the Strategic Council was held on December 12, 2014 at the Newseum in Washington DC. AIA OVR Strategic Council Representatives Bruce Sekanick AIA and Drew White FAIA were present as part of the inaugural meeting. AIA Ohio Valley was also represented by CACE president-elect Gwen Berlecamp, CAE, Executive Director of AIA Columbus.

The Strategic Council conducted the business of the council by establishing governance procedures and committees. The Council is led by a Steering Committee which includes a Moderator, and a Steering Committee from each of the three Council Classes. These members have no governing authority. The members of the three other standing committees also serve as ex-officio members of the Steering Committee. The Committees and their chairs are:

- Rules, Chaired by Bill Bates AIA
- Strategic Planning, Chaired by Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA
- Best Practices, Chaired by Dan Hart, FAIA

The goal of the Strategic Council during the initial meeting was to establish operating procedures and to engage the members of the Strategic Council in exercises and discussions that will lead to the development of a new Strategic Plan for the Institute. The issues explored by the Strategic Council members are being incorporated in the needs statements that will be discussed at the next meeting of the Council on February 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Strategic Planning**

The Strategic Council is engaged as part of the strategic planning effort as an outward looking advisory committee of the AIA Board of Directors. As part of this effort, President Helene Combs Dreiling and President-elect Elizabeth Chu Richter initiated a Strategic Planning effort in the fall of 2014 to develop a plan to replace the current plan that sunsets at the end of 2015. OVR Strategic Council Representative Bruce Sekanick AIA OAA was named as committee chair. The committee is charged with working with the Council, the Board and other strategic partners to develop a new five year plan for the Institute. This plan will run from 2016-2020. The committee has been charged to work with the Council Strategic Planning Committee in delivering this plan to the Board of Directors at their September 2015 meeting to permit the AIA Board and Management to establish the 2016 Operating Plan. Kate Brunswick CAE, Hon. AIA, Director of Services for AIA Ohio was also selected by presidents Dreiling/Richter to serve as part of this committee.

The Strategic Planning Committee is continuing its work while the Strategic Council will continue its discussions in New Orleans on February 3, 2015.

# **Advocacy**

The AIA national board committees have renamed and the AIA National Committees. These committees will reside with the Board of Directors through this 2015 with final placement to be determined by a coordinated discussion of the AIA BOD and Strategic Council. The appointments for 2015 have not yet be made by President Richter.

The AIA has designated 2015 as the Year of the Advocate as the Institute prepares for new advocacy and leadership programs in 2016. All members are invited to participate in advocacy efforts and to meet with staff and members of the National Advocacy Committee and discuss issues concerning membership for 2016. As we go prepare for Grassroots, the Advocacy team is preparing to present pre-Grassroots briefing on this year's issues. The webinars are scheduled as follows:

Monday, February 2 - 1:00 PM EST

Tuesday, February 3 - 4:00 PM EST

Wednesday, February 4 - 10:00 AM EST

Thursday, February 5 - 3:00 PM EST

Friday, February 6 – 11:00 AM EST

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3886766271427065602

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4416923290549965826 https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2251940914993917698

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7516837995390009858

ittps://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/151065/395590009656

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4755005523905058306

The Three topics that are part of this year's agenda for Capitol Hill visits include:

- Protect and Enhance the Federal Historic Tax Credit
- Ask to co-sponsor the Safe Building Code Incentive Act
   (This act encourages states to voluntarily adopt and enforce nationally recognized model building codes for residential and commercial properties, permitting them to qualify for added post-disaster FEMA grants)
- Ask to co-sponsor the National Design Services Act
   (This act extends to architecture graduates student debt relief in exchange for work in underserved communities).

#### **ArchiPAC**

The National ArchiPAC Committee will be hosting a program titled PAC 101. This webinar will be offered on February 13, 2015 from 2:00pm -3:00pm. You can sign up for this program at <a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6352842209577765889">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6352842209577765889</a>

This year's committee is chaired by OVR Strategic Council Representative Bruce Sekanick AIA OAA. Sekanick is working with the marketing department at AIA to establish new pins that will coordinate with other branding efforts of the AIA. There will be a strong emphasis for the AIA National to work with state PACs this year through joint programs. The ArchiPAC Committee has met and have approved new Bylaws for the Committee that are being submitted to legal council for approval. The members of the committee were approved by President Richter. Beginning with the 2016 renewals, which will be approved in September, the ArchiPAC committee will include messages and links on ArchiPAC and advocacy within the thank you notice. The ArchiPAC chair will also be sending a series of messages to all contributors throughout the year detailing our efforts and successes.

AIA Ohio Valley Region, 17 S. High Street, Suite 200, Columbus, OH 43215

In 2013-2014, ArchiPAC raised \$272,102.70 from 1,596 members. The average is a little over \$170 per member and the members contributing represents just under 2% of the total membership. The mean contribution was significantly lower than \$170, with smaller contributions being offset by nearly a half dozen contributions at or near \$2,500.

As part of our effort to be a bipartisan organization, the ArchiPAC Steering Committee worked hard to maintain nearly equal contributions to Republicans and Democrats. ArchiPAC supported 71 candidates in this effort. Of those candidates supported, 90% were elected, which exceeds the success rate of 89% in the 2012 election.

The Ohio Valley Region placed third in the country for dollars raised, which totaled \$23,586.58. We also Oplace third in meeting the percentage of our region goal at 91%. With a total of 133 donors (which represents about 4% of the region membership) we placed second among all regions at 81% of our goal.

# Summary OVR Strategic Council Report

The OVR remains very active in leadership within the Institute. 2015 will be an interesting year that will establish a new path for the Institute as the many parts of repositioning continue to be implemented. There are reasons to be both excited and concerned as we move through the year, with changes in representation being one of the highest concerns. As the Council establishes itself, we need to find a way to ensure that the concerns and needs of membership are adequately conveyed to those in office. With a smaller roll for those on Council and with less meeting times planned, the Council members, states and local components will need to work together to make our voices heard.

AIA will continue to implement changes on a number of fronts in 2015. Graphics will be one area that will affect all components and we are expected to hear more on any changes by the AIA National Convention in Atlanta.

There is no official business of the Council occurring at Grassroots, although both the ArchiPAC and Strategic Planning Committee will be meeting while in Washington.

# **OVR Associate Director Report**

## **OVR Associate News**

**Call for Nominations for next OVR RAD:** released a few weeks ago. Applications are due on February 27<sup>th</sup>, with the candidate to be interviewed and selected at the OVR Council Meeting, April 24<sup>th</sup> in Columbus. I (Ted) have been asked to provide a job

description, outlining the requirements, expectations, and other details for the position. Pending final edits, this should be released shortly for distribution.

Please encourage Associates, of all experience levels and backgrounds to consider declaring candidacy!

**2015 OVR Convention Planning:** I am sitting on the planning committee for the 2015 OVR Convention in Columbus. My focus is on programming, keying in on making sure Associate and EP voices are engaged in a meaningful way as part of the convention. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas, please contact me.

**2015 OVR Associate Leadership Map:** Working through gathering information to update and release the Associate Leadership of the OVR by the end of the first quarter.

## **NAC Updates**

NAC + YAF Annual Meeting: Annual meeting is February 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> in New Orleans. Meeting is intended to set the agenda and goals of the NAC for 2015, while integrating new Committee Members. This year's meeting is unique, as it is the first joint meeting of the NAC and the leadership of YAF. Joint sessions between YAF and NAC will be held to discuss items of mutual interest, with separate sessions for items that are not of mutual interest.

AIA Grassroots: The NAC and YAF have each received funding to cover expenses to the AIA Grassroots Convention in DC. This is important news to the OVR, as it reduces expected expenses that would be part of my yearly RAD budget for 2015. It is expected that this is a one-time only event, and should not be assumed or counted on to happen in future years. Much thanks goes to the new AIA National Board (the "small" board) to allocate the funding to ensure that EP and Associate national leadership is able to attend this important advocacy event.