



KANSAS MASONRY INDUSTRIES COUNCIL

PO Box 77, Ottawa, KS 66067-0077 Phone: (913) 492-5920

<http://www.kansasmasonry.org>

President's Message

C. Stan Peterson, FAIA

2008. The focus of this first report is the "Emerging Professionals and Their Needs, Effects and Affects" on the profession of architecture. Future reports will look more into the IDP, Legislative Issues, Convention, the Environment and more.

This looks to be an exciting year, full of many events and changes. This November we will elect new or re-elect current state representatives and senators, federal representatives and senators and a new president. As we are faced with high oil prices, the war in Iraq, a volatile economy it is nice to realize that historically Kansas appears to be insulated from much of the national change. The profession and practice of architecture is healthy. We could all use more but, I do hear the more we most want is qualified help not just work.

The practitioners look to our universities to provide the qualified architectural candidates. The need is for our universities to help and assist the Kansas firms first. After all the tax support for our universities comes from Kansans not out of states. The universities look to the Kansas practitioners for mentors and assistance. This is a key subject being discussed and promoted at the AIA Central States Region as well. There is great architecture being done in the Central States – we need to promote it and our emerging professionals.

There is currently a lot of activity occurring in the Intern Development Program, many improvements to the IDP and strengthening the credibility of the IDP. This is being done to help the supervising practitioner, the mentor and the intern. We need to look inward and dedicate our effort to creating programs to "Grow Our Own" highly educated, highly qualified and extremely talented emerging professionals.

This takes commitment by the intern, the young architects, emerging professionals and especially the firms. The emerging professional pool in Kansas is sharp, intelligent and demanding. The firms must dedicate the time, talent and resources to support and grow this asset. They are our business future and the future of architecture in Kansas.

Just as the young professionals are demanding the firm principals are also demanding. This is not a one way street it is a two direction parkway that needs to be fed, nourished and cared for both ways. The emerging professionals have organizations in each chapter and the State's Emerging Professional Committee is to track, support and assist the chapters. I will be exploring a Firm Principal Task Force to look into these issues as well. (If interested contact the AIA Kansas Office) There are issues that the emerging professionals create that are not always easy or even possible for firms to provide.

AIA Kansas Government Affairs Update

We are now over half-way through the legislative session and the bills on the Coal-Fired Electric Generation Plants continue to dominate the session. While a compromise bill has been passed by the House and Senate, it is still not printed and ready to go to the Governor who is expected to veto the bill. The House did not pass the bill with a wide-enough margin to override a veto, however, there is much "horse trading*" going on to get more votes. * Bills other legislators would like to move are being held back as leverage to get the needed votes for an override.

SB 452 – Energy/water standards for state buildings and K-12 schools. Position: Support. This bill requires new state buildings and USD schools reduce energy and water consumption. AIA Kansas supports the legislation but wants definition for "new construction," removal of word "certify" in the responsibilities of the a/e; and removal of the review process at the end of first year. AIA Kansas testified in support of the bill with amendments. It remains in committee.

SB 485 – Alternative Delivery for Counties. This bill, for counties, is similar to the Alternative Delivery statutes for state projects. It establishes consistent procedures for allowing design/build and CM at Risk. AIA Kansas testified in support of the bill. It remains in committee. Position: Support. This bill requires new state buildings and USD schools reduce energy and water consumption. AIA Kansas supports the legislation but wants definition for "new construction," removal of word "certify" in the responsibilities of the a/e; and removal of the review process at the end of first year. AIA Kansas testified in support of the bill with amendments. It remains in committee.

SB 642 Unified school districts; alternative building construction procurement. This bill, for counties, is similar to the Alternative Delivery statutes for state projects. It establishes consistent procedures for allowing design/build and CM at Risk. AIA Kansas supports the bill. It remains in committee. Position: Support.

HB 2618 - Administrative procedure amendments – this bill removes the authority of the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions to hold their own hearings on matters before it. They will have to use an administrative officer to conduct the hearings. This will require the Tech Board of hire experts on matters before the hearing officer. AIA Kansas provided testimony opposing this change. However, the chairs of both the House and Senate Judiciary committees support the bill and will make sure it passes.

HB 2682 – Net Metering and Easy Connection – allows those owner/operators of an electric generation unit using solar thermal sources or photovoltaic cells and panels connected to the electric grid (upon OK by utility) to buy and/or sell energy. AIA supports but would like the bill amended to include other alternative energy sources. AIA Kansas testified in support of the bill. It remains in committee.

H 2744 - Procedures for state agencies to acquire architectural, engineering and land surveying services for certain projects for state agencies and setting fees for such services. AIA Kansas supports this will that will **eliminate the fee cap** that is currently in statute and bring architects and engineers requirements into sink. The bill has yet to have a hearing.

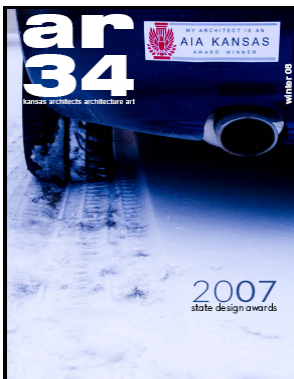
The legislative session is winding down; however, much remains to be done. It will be interested to see if any thing of consequence will be passed in the next three weeks.

AIA Advocacy Week – March 23-28, 2008 - Week will be an organized, in-district congressional visit program designed to connect AIA members with their congressional representatives during district work periods. Much like our annual ventures to Capitol Hill during the Grassroots Leadership and Legislative Conference, Advocacy Week will allow AIA members the chance to communicate the importance of the AIA issues agenda and strengthen relationships between Members of Congress and the architectural profession. AIA Kansas will set up meetings with our congressional representatives to discuss the following three issues:

- Enact Incentives for Energy Efficient Buildings
- Eliminate Retainage Rules on Architects and Engineers
- Promote Healthy and Safe Communities Through Transportation Funding

As soon as they are confirmed, we will send the schedule to members so you may attend. Watch your email.

AR34 Winter Edition



The Winter Edition of AR 34 features all the submittals to the 2007 AIA Kansas Design Awards Program.

<http://www.aiaks.org/members/committees/members/committees/design.html/members/committees/AR34%20Winter%2008>



Want to participate in the next issues?

<http://www.aiaks.org/members/committees/members/committees/design.html/members/committees/ar34call>

Grassroots – An Emerging Professional’s First-Timer Experience By Stacey Z. Keller

If I were to title the experience, it would be "Connections." This was a great conference for the leadership of the organization to get together, network, and share in experiences, frustrations, and learning opportunities. To my dismay, this Grassroots did not align itself with the legislative schedule, and we were unable to travel to the hill. I've been told that this is the highlight of Grassroots, and I hope to share this experience in the future.

With that said, I was extremely impressed with the General Sessions and their speakers. Our AIA National President, Vice President, and CEO spoke with such expertise; I envied their abilities. I was motivated to take an even more active role in the governmental process. It was also impressive to hear directly from distinguished news analysts on our current, heated presidential race. General (Retired) Henry H. Shelton spoke to us about leadership and sticking to high moral standards and maintaining good character. However, the speaker that stood out the most to me was Frances Hesselbein, who spoke to us about leadership and diversity. The events she shared of her childhood, as CEO of the Girl Scouts, and now as a Leadership Motivational speaker, rang true across the gamut of life and of all professions.

From there, the breakout sessions I attended were ones in which I tried to focus on Emerging Professional’s issues. The first conference session I took part in was on the multi-generational workplace, led by motivational speaker Izzy Gesell and our own Katie Harms, CSR RAD. This presentation brought out the best and the worst out of the generations’ discussions from, "They don’t do what they’re asked to do," "They don’t have any commitment," "They don’t give us enough feedback," and "We are capable of more." With three generations in the room, drawing upon numerous varied experiences, I think it offered an eye-opener to all involved. It started an invigorating discussion of expectations and understanding, to be carried on back to the workplaces, to create better work environments. So to that I say, great session.

Some of these same generational frustrations seeped into a second session I attended on "IDP and Emerging Professional programming that promote licensure." Some of the more successful groups reinforce the need to provide more camaraderie/competition around study sessions and the importance of having a well-stocked study materials library. The question and answer segment was where the true debate began. General discussions began by offering some of EP’s constraints: that there’s increased time constraints due to the profession’s high project volume and responsibility unlike that of previous generations; and how the new computerized testing style is detracting the camaraderie of the group test, as well as supervisors’ unawareness of an employees testing schedule to understand when to alleviate work loads, as once provided before. Now this offering was not one of making excuses, but simply looking for some understanding and support from mentors to achieve our mutual goal, more licensed architects.

Back to connections, some of the prevailing comments I continuously heard about related to AIA National’s Strategic Plan. Members want to see "Member Value" increase through programming, increased interest in emerging professionals, and for architects to become the leaders in sustainability and carbon neutrality teaching. There was also a strong desire to see better dissemination of information from AIA National down to the components and to individual members.

Finally, and most inspiring, I got to meet a lot of great architects, movers and shakers of their components, and many of which are interested in fostering strong mentoring opportunities. I got to connect a place to the AIA, by seeing the AIA headquarters full of hardworking people working for us and our interests. Furthermore, I got to connect with Associate Directors from all over the U.S., where we were able to relate on numerous issues. The most encouraging is that I discovered, we, the emerging professionals, in the Central States Region are receiving substantial support.



AIA National Convention May 15-17, 2008

The AIA 2008 National Convention and Design Exposition will take place in Boston, May 15–17, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. This year’s theme, We the People, will explore how architecture works on behalf of all people and society. A closer look will be taken on the essential role of the architect in society by parsing the architect’s contribution according to five broad tracks: where we live, where we work, our place in the world, how we come together, and our place on the land. Registration is now open online. Go to aiaconvention.com for more details and to register today. Hotel and travel arrangements can also be made on this site. All first time architects and associates who joined within the last year are free to attend!

'Walk the Walk' - A New Sustainability Campaign for Green Design

The American Institute of Architects announces the launch of 'Walk the Walk,' a multi-faceted campaign to educate, promote and encourage sustainable design among consumers, business owners and architects. The purpose of the program is to help inform the marketplace on the benefits of more energy-efficient homes and buildings, which coincides with the AIA's stated goal of making all buildings carbon neutral by 2030 and helping the U.S. design and construction industry reduce the consumption of fossil fuels in buildings. To advance its efforts in achieving a 50 percent fossil fuel reduction by 2010, the AIA also is implementing a comprehensive communications plan, inclusive of print and online advertising, new media and public relations. "As America continues to be saturated by messages of 'going green,' there is a general lack of understanding that buildings are one of the primary sources of the greenhouse gases contributing to global warming and climate change," said Christine McEntee, Executive Vice President and CEO of the AIA.

To achieve its goals, the AIA offers two environmental toolkits: SustAIAnability 2030 Toolkit

For the 2030 Tool Kit, the AIA partnered with the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) to encourage city leaders to promote high- performance, sustainable building design with a goal of reaching a 50 percent fossil fuel reduction by 2010 and carbon neutral buildings by 2030. The National Association of Counties joined AIA and USCM in advocating these energy reduction goals. The toolkit highlights green building issues and provides samples of effective ordinance language for communities, as well as examples of what others are already doing to pursue green building programs. Access the toolkit online: www.aia.org/static/state_local_resources/adv_sustainability.

50to50 Toolkit - The 50to50 toolkit is a set of 50 strategies, tools and techniques that can have an immediate impact on architects' ability to achieve significant reductions in energy use and carbon emissions for the buildings they design. For example, the 50to50 toolkit recommends designing buildings to maximize passive strategies like incorporating more windows to capitalize on daylight and use less lighting energy. To view the complete list of 50 strategies, please visit www.aia.org/fiftytofive.

[Job Board](#) visit the AIA Kansas web page aiaks.org for up to the minute listings

Calendar

MARCH

- 4 AIA Kansas Conference Committee, 4pm, WDM Office, 105 N Washington, Wichita
- 5 Gate Precast Seminar, Broadview Hotel, <http://www.gateprecast.com/education/seminars.cfm>.
- 18 AIA Kansas Conference Committee, 4pm, WDM Office, 105 N Washington, Wichita
- 20 AIA Historical Resources Committee
- 20 AIA COTE Committee
- 28 AIA Kansas Board Meeting, 2pm, Kansas City

APRIL

- 17 AIA Historical Resources Committee
- 17 AIA COTE Committee