BRADLEY D. SCHULZ ELEVATED TO COLLEGE OF FELLOWS

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) elevated 134 architects to its prestigious College of Fellows, an honor awarded to members who have made contributions of national significance to the profession.

Out of a membership of more than 84,000, there are fewer than 2,600 AIA members distinguished with the honor of fellowship. It is conferred on architects with at least 10 years of membership in the AIA who have made significant contributions in the following areas: the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession; the standards of architectural education, training and practice; the building industry through leadership in the AIA and other related professional organizations; advancement of living standards of people through an improved environment; and to society through significant public service.

Bradley D. Schulz, FAIA, a member and a leader of the AIA Nevada and Las Vegas Chapters of the American Institute of Architects, was elected to receive this honor because of his contributions to leadership in the AIA and other related professional organizations. Mr. Schulz joins a distinguished group of only four other Nevada architects who have achieved Fellowship. They include JESS HOLMES, FAIA, ROBERT A. FIELDEN, FAIA, WILLIAM SNYDER, FAIA and J. WINDOM KIMSEY, FAIA.

Through his national leadership, service to the Institute and hospitality practice, Bradley D. Schulz, AIA, LEED AP has led the profession by influencing AIA’s education and internship policies and advancing the practice of architecture.

Mr. Schulz served as National Co-Chair and Chair of the 24-member Steering Committee, for the 2005 AIA National Convention in Las Vegas. Through his leadership and initiative the convention set records with 25,000 attendees, 75,000 continuing education credits, 3,600 tour seats and exposed cutting edge hospitality design to architects from around the country. He has also served as Western Mountain Region (WMR) Director to the National AIA Board (2001-2003), AIA Nevada President (1998) and AIA Las Vegas President (1996).

As a leader of the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) Board of Directors and its 2006 Secretary, Mr. Schulz drafted new Conditions and Procedures which better integrate the practice of architecture and incorporate a new studio culture into architecture education programs. He helped to formulate and presented a new funding model to keep NAAB solvent and reduce the financial burden on the schools. He has also participated in nine school accreditation visits and chaired two.

As Chair of the National AIA Intern Development Program Coordinating Committee (IDPCC), Mr. Schulz established rules for tighter monitoring of the performance of State and Educator IDP Coordinators and put new emphasis on the role of mentors. His work on the IDPCC and the NCARB IDP Committee has standardized IDP across the nation.

Mr. Schulz has a history of civic involvement, including being an Honorary Commander at Nellis Air Force Base, providing support for military personnel leaving for service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In practice as Principal and Director of Hospitality, Mr. Schulz has produced significant hospitality projects. As an acknowledged expert in hospitality planning and design, he has advance the profession through his writing, speaking and leadership. He has also advanced the profession of architecture and the Institute through his national advocacy of architectural education, internship, mentorship and the architect’s responsibility to their community.

The new Fellows, who are entitled to use the designation “FAIA” following their names, will be invested in the College of Fellows at the 2010 AIA National Convention and Design Exposition in Miami on June 11.
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AIA LAS VEGAS
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
DEEPIKA PADAM, AIA, LEED AP

I was in a shuttle going from the airport towards my hotel at the last AIA Convention in San Francisco when I overheard an amazed UK girl speaking to her mother. "Look mom, all the drivers are alone in their cars! There are no passengers!" she said. The mother tried to explain with futility, when the girl asked, "But why are there no passengers? Why are they driving the car for just one person?" The mother simply asked her to shush.

It brought back memories when I was that age and lived with parents in India. Quite simply, we used cars when at least two people were travelling. At other times we used scooters, bikes, mopeds, rickshaws, horse carts, three-wheelers, buses, and trains. This was not because of lack of means, but lifestyle and culture. I could count the number of times I had been inside an air-conditioned building on my two hands until I moved to US. We faced severe cold and heat with the same comfort as the pleasant spring and summer seasons. We lived among the rain and the fog. We adjusted. Our buildings worked, and we adapted to the seasons, Times have changed. Countries like India have "progressed" and become westernized in their luxuries. But are they getting away from nature in their pursuit of luxury? What’s the point of having an air-conditioner installed in a house if we face power-cuts? That’s common there, but may not be far from us at US. Are we prepared? Can our buildings function without electricity?

Environmental design, sustainability, green building, responsive design... whatever we call it... These words were new to me when I moved here. I didn’t initially understand why we were talking about these things. To me, it was part of design. I soon realized the dependence on fossil fuels that this country suffers from. Over the years, I have started to suffer from the same dependence. But I do understand what an experienced architect is talking about when they speak of green building versus someone fresh out of school. There is a big educational gap there. My architectural education in India was similar to US education 20 years ago, while my Masters at Michigan is of the current age. I'd say I've seen both sides of the coin. So what do we do about this?

In today’s date, LEED is considered the highest rating system for a building’s sustainability. There are strong opinions for and against LEED. Instead of getting into debates about how good LEED is, why don’t we stop and wonder; if we didn’t have LEED or similar rating systems, will all the buildings being constructed be sustainable? Is architecture all about form and function or are there certain basic principles that some architects overlook? Why are we separating the “LEED” items from a regular building design? I don’t think we should fight LEED because we think we know better! I believe it is an essential tool because without it, many professionals will be lost about how to properly design and construct a building. We need to have both discussions going on simultaneously – how to design well and how to design responsibly. I believe California is headed in the right direction through the adoption of Green Building Standards Code (CALGREEN). We need to lead the effort to Nevada isn’t much far behind. Time will tell how the International Green Construction Code (IGCC) will impact our work. In the meanwhile, let’s do what we can at home to design and construct well.

That brings me to the discussion of the Committee on the Environment (COTE) and the Committee on Design (COD). Why is COTE separate from COD? COD focuses on good design practices while COTE focuses on good environmental design practices. What?! Isn’t it the same thing?

One of my goals for this year was to start a local COD. Another goal was to restart COTE. After much deliberation and some discussions with peers who will spearhead the effort, we have come to the conclusion that these two missions need to be combined. We are starting an AIA Las Vegas Committee on Design that will be based on the missions of COD and COTE at the national level. We will not engage in debates on LEED and how to design green buildings. The mission would be to acknowledge good design. We do not plan on separating the two issues of good design and green design, because they aren’t separate! If you believe in DESIGN, please keep an eye on the upcoming announcements when we head start this new committee. To committee on "designed environments"... to Committee on Design!
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

FELLOWS:
HANS NEUMANN, FAIA

ARCHITECTS:
JOHN LASPALUTO, AIA (REJOIN) 
APTUS ARCHITECTURE
GREGORY LORUSSO, AIA
BERGMAN WALLS & ASSOCIATES, LTD.
DO-SEONG KIM, AIA
TIPTON OMOHUNDRO, AIA (REJOIN)
JOHN WALD, AIA (REJOIN)
KLAU JURA ARCHITECTS

ASSOCIATES:
PHILIP STEWART, ASSOC. AIA

ALLIEDS:
TIM GARVER
DUNN-EDWARDS PAINT
JAMES GUNThER
HELIX ELECTRIC
CATHERINE TO
POLAR SHADES, INC.

MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING
TAKE A RIDE WITH US ON RTC’S NEW ACE BUS

Get on the bus! Our March Membership Meeting offers a special opportunity to preview RTC’s new ACE Rapid Transit Gold Line BEFORE it goes public. This new line will provide an enhanced transit link between downtown and the Las Vegas Strip. The ACE vehicles are StreetCar RTV, made by The Wright Group, and provide the look and feel of a light rail transit system and will utilize diesel-hybrid electric technology. The ACE line features Art-Enhanced Transit Shelters that provide amenities that are unique to the new RTC system. You will learn all about the new ACE Gold Line and the ACE Express Commuter System, as well as the new Sustainable Bonneville Transit Center, when Jacob Snow, Director of the Regional Transportation Commission welcomes us to the March meeting and presents the RTC’s Rapid Transit Plans for 2010.

The meeting begins promptly at 4:15PM with the overview presentation by Jacob Snow, in Room #108, Regional Transportation Administrative Offices, 600 Grand Central Parkway. Following Jacob’s presentation, we’ll get aboard the new ACE vehicles at 5:00PM and depart for our tour of the transit shelters, along with the local artists who designed them.

Each of the ACE Gold line stations feature one-of-a-kind artwork created by local artists and commissioned by the RTC. Each piece of artwork is unique and was created with our city in mind. Many of the local artists will be on board the vehicles to discuss their work and answer questions regarding their role in creating the transit shelters.

To celebrate St. Patrick’s Day and the GREEN efforts of the RTC, following the RTC tour, everyone is invited to stop by the Main Street Station – Triple 7 Microbrewery for an informal get together (cash bar.) Please indicate on your RSVP if you plan to be there. Also (very important) in order to plan accurately for the number of RTC buses for the tour, we will need to have your RSVP no later than Wednesday, March 10. Go to the www.aialasvegas.org website and RSVP right now. Only $10 for AIA members / $20 for non-members / *$10 for students (*must RSVP in person at the AIA LV office with student ID.)
ARCHITECTURE WEEK 2010

Each year, one week in April is designated as Architecture Week, and during that time your AIA Chapter puts forth a special effort to raise public awareness of our built environment and its importance to the livability and functionality of our communities. This year we hope all AIA members will join in the festivities and take advantage of this opportunity to celebrate the architecture of our city and those who have created it.

Monday, April 12 – Vegas Visions Unbuilt Awards
Presentation and Exhibit
6:00PM – Auditorium, Historic Fifth Street School
$20 for members / $40 for non-members with RSVP required on www.ailasvegas.org

Tuesday, April 13 – Roger Thomas “Unlimited Luxury”
A Kaj Juba Lecture for the Community
6:00PM – Auditorium Historic Fifth Street School
Open to all – No charge but RSVP required on www.ailasvegas.org

Wednesday, April 14 – AIA Las Vegas High School Design Awards
Recognition for Young Designers and Tomorrow’s Architects
6:00PM – Auditorium Historic Fifth Street School
Open to all – No charge but RSVP required on www.ailasvegas.org

Thursday, April 15 – Construction
Reception and Awards Announcement
Teams of architects, engineers and students compete to design and build giant structures made entirely from full cans of food. Their work is on display in Centennial Plaza – All food donated to the Three Square Food Bank.
6:00PM – Centennial Plaza, 4th & Lewis, located beside Historic Fifth Street School
Open to all – No charge but a canned food item is requested
RSVP required on www.ailasvegas.org

ARCHITECTURE WEEK SPONSORS
$750 FOR ALL EVENTS OR $500 FOR ONE EVENT
April 12-16, 2010

A full week of events and activities celebrating Architecture and those who design and create our communities. Officially proclaimed by the Mayor and government officials, the week includes concentrated media coverage of events and special programming on Nevada Public Radio.

Benefits
• Recognition on Signage, on Table Tents and in Announcements
• Listing in any Event Programs
• Inclusion in Public Relations and Media Releases Covering The Week
• 2 Free Attendees to all Architecture Week Events

Visit the www.ailasvegas.org website today to secure your sponsorship.

VEGAS VISIONS UNBUILT AWARDS
The AIA Las Vegas Unbuilt Awards program is specifically designed to recognize imagination, ingenuity, resourcefulness and vision and is not required to conform to the realities of constructed work. This special program is for theoretical, academic and unbuilt projects that explore and exhibit the architectural ideas and innovations of creative minds and allows recognition of those who look into the future and capture what our city can be.

The deadline for entry forms and fees is Thursday, March 25, with submittals due on April 1 (no late submissions will be accepted.) Submittals consist of one 24” x 36” foamcore project board, and one disc containing a pdf of that project board. The project board will be exhibited and the pdf file will be juryed by architects from the Western Mountain Region. Award recipients will be announced at the beginning of Architecture Week in Las Vegas at the Vegas Visions Awards Celebration and Exhibit. Full information including entry forms and submittal instructions are available on www.ailasvegas.org (under Events/Architecture Week). You can also RSVP for the Presentation and Exhibit on the calendar page.

CANSTRUCTION 14TH ANNUAL DESIGN/BUILD COMPETITION
We are calling on our local AIA Las Vegas Firms to sign up and be a part of the 2010 Construction event, which will be an integral part of our Architecture Week program.

2010 Call For Entries
Who: Teams of Southern Nevada Architects, Engineers, Contractors, Designers and Students attending Schools of Architecture, Engineering and Design.

What: It starts with one can. To feed the hungry. To lift the spirit. To change the world. Canstruction®, a charity committed to ending hunger, is using ‘one can’ as a catalyst for change.

When: March 15 Deadline for Entry
April 14 Build Day
April 15 Judging & Awards Gala
April 15-16 Open to the Public
April 17 De-construction

Where: Historic Fifth Street School - 401 S. 4th Street, Las Vegas

How: Email Jeanne Frost at jfrost@hansengineering.com by March 15th, 2010 or go to www.ailasvegas to download an entry form.

Can’t Participate, But You’d Like To Donate?
We are accepting donations to go toward the Canstruction event. The suggested amount is $50, but any amount is welcome and deeply appreciated. To make a donation, please contact Maggie Allred at mallred@mercury-ltd.com.
A VINTAGE VEGAS TOURNAMENT
AT THE CLASSIC LAS VEGAS NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

The 37th Annual AIA Las Vegas Golf Tournament will be held at the Las Vegas National Golf Club, which boasts a rich history of tournament play. As former host to both PGA and LPGA events, the National is where Tiger Woods won his first professional event, and where the “Rat Pack” played and entertained their guests. Locals tell great stories of late night matches under the glow of the driving range lights. The National has become a landmark over the last 50 years. It was host to the movie “Casino”, starring Robert DeNiro, Sharon Stone and Joe Pesci.

Join the fun and the challenge of playing this classic course with your friends and associates. Rolling fairways, mature trees and strategically placed lakes nad bunkers make this an AIA tournament to remember.

Secure your team today. $600 per team (4 players at $150 each) or $175 for individual players. Fee includes green fees, tournament golf, breakfast, AIA goodie bag filled with surprises, drink tickets, door prize tickets and a fabulous Awards Lunch immediately following the tournament. Overall Low Gross score wins the AIA Commemorative Trophy and each winning team player receives a $100 gift certificate to the National Pro Shop. Visit the www.aiolasvegas.org website today to secure your team and/or sponsorship.

BECOME A SPONSOR TODAY!
This is an excellent opportunity for vendors, consultants and representatives in related fields to network and socialize with members of the architectural community.

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AIA LV E NEWS CONNECTION

AIA Las Vegas provides an excellent service for local firms who want to announce their latest Project News, Firm Announcements, Awards or New Products to our members, local business leaders, potential clients and public officials. For a small fee your firm can guarantee that your press releases and company announcements will get seen by those who matter.

Firms supply a press release (maximum 200 words) and one image (if desired) to Debi Raffi at draffi@aianevada.org by the 25th of each month. The information supplied will be included in an E Newsletter that will then be emailed out to our contacts. A link to your firm’s website will be included.

This same information will then be posted on the AIA Las Vegas website. This information will remain until the following month’s postings are added. A link to your firm’s website will be included. Items are listed on a first come, first placed basis (placement is based on when we receive your contract.)

Rates

1 E Newsletter article + 1 month Website Posting
AIA LV Members: $25 Non-Members: $35

FRIENDS OF ARCHITECTURE

Do you have a spouse, friend, neighbor, or acquaintance, who loves design and has an interest in and appreciation for architecture?

Ask them to join AIA Las Vegas as a Friend of Architecture. This is a newly created category of membership, especially for those who are NOT directly involved in the architecture and construction industries. Friends of Architecture are public members who simply care about creating livable communities, the built environment, and sustainability. Friends of Architecture receive a subscription to the FORUM monthly newsletter as well as email notices of AIA meetings and events that provide great opportunities to meet and network with architects and members of the architecture, design and construction community and to learn more about the importance of design and how their community functions. Tell your spouse, friends, neighbors and acquaintances to call Kelly at 702.895.0936 or email klavigne@aianevada.org to join.

MEMBER NEWS

SUNDARESH KAMATH, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP has accepted a position with Fort Bend Independent School District (FBISD) in Sugar Land, Texas as the Director of Design and Construction. As the Director of Design and Construction, Mr. Kamath will be in charge of design and construction of all school facilities. Mr. Kamath is currently employed at City of North Las Vegas and was working at State of Nevada Public Works Board prior to that. To contact Sunny, please use Skamath648@aol.com.

DEADLINE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS HERE

DON’T LOSE YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS!

Keep your AIA Membership Active. If you have not sent in your dues renewal payment, you only have a few weeks remaining. AIA and Assoc. AIA members who have not renewed their membership by March 31st, 2010 will be considered lapsed and will not receive member benefits until dues payment is made in full. Allied members will be dropped on March 2nd.

Lapsed and dropped members will no longer receive a free Member and Firm listing on the www.aielasvegas.org website, or in the Directory. To attend any future AIA Las Vegas events including project tours, you will be required to pay the non-member attendance fee and you will no longer receive a copy of the newsletter or email notices regarding upcoming CE events.

Invoices were recently mailed out to all members, so be sure to call Kelly at 702.895.0936 or fax 702.895.4417 with your credit card information to ensure your AIA Las Vegas benefits will continue.

We Are Members of AIA Las Vegas...

We Like To Do Business With AIA Las Vegas Members.

Join Today.

Go To www.aielasvegas.org For More Information or Call 702.895.0936.

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A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

ARE YOU?
SGN REPORT
ERIC ROBERTS, ASSOC. AIA
STATE GOVERNMENT NETWORK REPRESENTATIVE FOR AIA NEVADA
eroberts@sh-orchitecture.com

Grassroots Recap 2010: A Call to Action!

In early 1990 I remember watching the heavyweight champion of the world, Mike Tyson, get knocked-out by James “Buster” Douglas. As I watched the fight, I remember seeing Mike Tyson’s head rocking back and forth as punch after punch landed and I thought to myself: this can’t be happening! The final image that sticks in my mind to this day is Mike Tyson trying to scramble back to his feet to beat the ten-count. His mouthpiece had been haphazardly placed in his mouth backwards in his delirium. The “Champ” got worked. This memory is pertinent in regards to our meetings with Legislators on Capitol Hill this year, because the look on Mike Tyson’s face in that moment was eerily similar to the looks on many faces in Washington D.C.

For many years our economy was “the Champ.” It was seemingly unbeatable and destined to grow and grow without checks or slowing. In the past years, we have each been “worked” in our personal and in our business finances and our legislators are facing issues that run deeper than any of those faced in our nation’s history. Our Nevada Legislative Committee went to the belly of the beast the week of February 1st through the 5th (some spent longer due to “Snow-mageddon”) to plead the case of architects and the design industry. We had excellent representation from northern and southern Nevada and we were able to visit all five of our elected officials in Washington, D.C. Our “Pencil Ready” campaign was very well received by our Senators and Representatives (as well as being recognized by AIA National as an innovative campaign that was raising awareness.) As a testament to our place in the national and state discussion, our own Randy Lavigne, Hon. AIA was invited by Senator Harry Reid to be his guest at the State of the Union Address. Regrettably, Randy couldn’t go, but Ric Licata, AIA valiantly filled in for her.

Some points from our time in Washington D.C. that really frame our current situation: Currently only 1/3 of the stimulus money has been released with more to be released in 2010 and 2011. The 3rd and 4th quarters of 2009 showed expanding growth of the GDP (6% in the 4th quarter) which is a good sign for the recovery of the economy. However, architecture and construction payroll declines are becoming a larger share of losses in the overall economy. (Architecture payrolls have been in decline for 24 consecutive months nationwide.) In the coming next two fiscal years, 382 Billion dollars have been cut from state budgets already with 140 Billion already cut from 2010. It is apparent that without the stimulus package and favorable interest rates we would be in much worse shape than we are now; the stimulus has helped stabilize financial markets and credit conditions. However, the ARRA funds are set to expire in 2012. The end of the stimulus funds coupled with the sunset of state tax provisions enacted in the last state legislative session foretells a financial cliff for higher education and K-12 education in our state as well as a structural deficit in Nevada which will reset the financial playing field into an ever-continuing decline if substantial changes are not made.

It is evident that Nevada must adapt, as a state, to a more diverse marketplace that can evolve to changing economic conditions. In the upcoming election two house seats and one of our senate seats are up for election. Statewide, many seats are also up for elections. To add more fuel to the political fire, this is also a “re-disticting” election. This means that districts for political seats will be reassigned by those we put into office this election. In short, the future of the State of Nevada is up for grabs! The AIA must have a seat at the table to ensure that quality design, communities and lifestyles are part of the Nevada future. That we have had as much positive political exposure as we have had is a testament to the membership of the AIA and the respect we have been given by our community. However, it remains insufficient to get our message heard by our elected officials.

To that end, I am resurrecting the “Nevada Society of Architects” Political Action Committee. This PAC is the AIA’s vehicle for making small donations to political campaigns thereby assuring our seat at the table and that our voice is heard in the debate. The PAC is non-partisan but is focused on issues important to AIA Nevada and our members. It is funded by donations from our membership – that’s YOU!

In the coming months I will discuss how easy it is to donate to the PAC and how it can benefit you and your business. To get us started, I am issuing a challenge: donate an amount equal to one billable hour of your time to our PAC. If that amount is too much, make a small monthly donation equal to $1 for each year you have been in the profession. Checks can be sent to the AIA Las Vegas office and payable to “Nevada Society of Architects PAC.” Through small and simple means we can effect great change on our environment and society.

It has been said “Get into politics or get out of business!” And so, we will. Remember: this is your profession, your life and your chance to get your voice heard!
AIA NEVADA
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
PAT PUSICH, AIA

Well we made it back from the Snowmagedon 2010; otherwise known as AIA Grassroots 2010!

It was a scramble to get back to Las Vegas & Reno with airlines canceling all of the flights in/out of DC in preparation of up to 30" of snow. Most of us made it back OK but there were a few (Ric, Deepika, Paul C. & Eric R.) who got stranded a few extra days and have some great stories!

The main purpose of Grassroots was to have architects from all of the 50 states ascend on their congressional delegation to stress the desperate need to get the economy going again and putting people back to work. With the economy sputtering and trying to show some signs of life, we asked our delegates to please support 5 key areas which are together called the AIA “Blueprint for Recovery”.

The good news is that we were able to meet with Senators Reid & Ensign, as well as Congressman Heller, Congresswomen Berkley and Titus and we had some very good dialogue and all seemed to understand the gravity of the issues. Now they need to roll up their sleeves and “get’er done”. There is a ton of partisanship that we need them all to overcome as the Nation’s needs are a higher priority than party lines. Education and the Call to Action for Nevada.

Nevada is also in financial dire straits, and we are facing an 887 million dollar budget deficit. Governor Gibbons has requested a special session starting on 23 February. The issues are huge and the Education System of Nevada has a large target on it.

AIA Nevada has sent a letter and called all 62 Nevada Legislators, indicating the concern that we have of taking resources away from an already under funded education system. We have the undistinguished honor of being 47th in funding our schools and have the worst High School Graduation rate at 45% while the Nation graduates roughly 71% of HS students. The 19,500 students who dropped out of Nevada’s High Schools in 2008 will have a lost lifetime earnings of more than $5.1 billion. Everyone needs to consider the consequences of increased costs to social welfare, health care, and prisons if we fail to fund our education system.

For our economy to start growing again we will need to count on the quality of our Education System to be a catalyst for families to move to the state and for businesses to expand or relocate to Nevada. Quality Education is the foundation that we need to restructure our economy on.

Please contact our State and National Delegation and send them a quick email or letter indicating your concern and the need act on the Blueprint for Recovery and your thoughts on the need to fund the State of Nevada’s Education System.

It’s not just politics any more, it’s about our lively hood and quality of life that is in play.

(Nevada education statistics courtesy of Mike Del Gatto, AIA)
CALL TO ACTION – DON'T CUT EDUCATION

In his State of the State address, Governor Gibbons suggested that it is necessary to cut education funding (again) in order to find a solution to the state’s budget shortfall. AIA Nevada is taking action by contacting and imploring all assembly members and senators to remember that Education is the foundation of a successful economy. It would be a further disservice to the citizens of Nevada, and the future of our state, to continue to reduce the quality of education by cutting funding, reducing teachers and enlarging class sizes. The following message has been sent to each legislator and the AIA Nevada Legislative Committee members are contacting each legislator personally to let them know that Nevada's Educational System must not be compromised. If you would like to join the Call to Action, contact your state representatives and let them know that you agree with the AIA position and the importance of education to our future. Visit the AIA Nevada website at www.aianevada.org - select Legislation – select State issues. There is a list of the state assembly members and senators with contact phone and email.

"An Educated work force is vital to Nevada's future economic prosperity."

Speaking on behalf of over 1,000 architects in Nevada, we know firsthand that we are in the grips of the worst recession since the 1930’s. The Governor’s State of the State address clearly identified the challenges including, high home foreclosures, the 2nd highest unemployment rate in the country and declining tax revenues, which are all contributing to a nearly $900 million dollar deficit.

Republicans and Democrats agree that raising taxes in this sour economy is unpalatable. Cutting staff, programs and services is all that remains to fix the gaping hole in the budget and it won’t be easy, but “Nevada’s Educational System should not take the Brunt of this Blow”.

"Nevada currently ranks 47th in the country in Educational Spending per Capita". If we expect to start growing our economy again, it is essential that we have the highest quality education system available so that our workforce attracts new and existing businesses to expand and relocate to Nevada. It is time for a NEW vision of Nevada, a vision of a “Diversified Economy” that is not reliant on the usual suspects.

"The Foundation of a sustainable Nevada Economy is a Quality Education".

The reasoning is sound, and the conclusion is clear: To be an effective and contributing member of the work force of tomorrow, preparation must be made today to provide the best educational systems possible. “Nevada’s Educational System cannot be compromised”.

"All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth." - Aristotle

"A necessary ingredient for boosting the human capital potential of the Intermountain West – and the nation as a whole – is education" - Brookings Institute report: Metropolitan Policy Program

AIA Legislative Committee: Pat Pusich, AIA – President, AIA Nevada; Max Hershenson, AIA; Windom Kimsey, FAIA, Eric Roberts, Assoc, AIA; Brad Van Woert, AIA; Ric Licata, AIA; Mike Del Gatto, AIA; Mike Andersen, AIA; Sean Coulter, AIA, Deepika Padam, AIA; Ed Vance, AIA

NEVADA CONSERVATION LEAGUE
GREEN TIE EVENT FOR SENATOR HARRY REID

On Monday, March 29th, AIA Las Vegas will join with the Nevada Conservation League to salute Senator Harry Reid, and to recognize his efforts to make Nevada a leader in providing renewable energy for the nation. We believe that Nevadans have a right to a clean and healthy environment. In Nevada, conservation minded voters have no better advocate than Senator Reid. He has brought over 1.5 billion dollars to Nevada to aid in economic recovery and over 2.1 million to the state to help create jobs in renewable energy projects and to help lower the cost of energy bills. We are honored to have such a great leader and are happy to join with NCL in hosting this event to say thank you for the work he has done on behalf of conservation and the development of a clean energy economy for our state. We could think of nothing more appropriate than a Green Tie Gala... so put on your best green and come join us in honoring the best friend the conservation community has ever had.…. Senator Harry Reid.

This event is a fund-raiser for the Nevada Conservation League, an independent, non-partisan voice of the Conservation community that works every day to maintain and enhance the natural character of Nevada and the quality of life for all Nevadans. AIA Las Vegas is an independent, non-partisan voice in the architectural and design community working to enhance, improve and protect our communities and our built environment.

The Green Tie Gala will be held in the auditorium at the Historic Fifth Street School at 6:00PM on Monday, March 29, 2010. Tickets are available through the Nevada Conservation League website www.nvgreenvote.org. A special ticket price of $50 has been arranged for AIA Nevada / AIA Las Vegas members.
DIVERSITY AND THE AIA – AN UPDATE FOR CONSIDERATION

CHRIS FENTON, AIA
DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY, AIA LAS VEGAS

As one of AIA’s key initiatives, Diversity and Inclusion is represented on the AIA national website as a resource that provides news, programs, education, tools and resources relating to the topic along with the AIA’s position statement on Diversity. This resource is located at: http://www.aia.org/about/initiatives/AIAS078656

The AIA expands further on this topic through the following statement:

“Diversity and Inclusion within the AIA is not strictly focused on race, ethnicity, and gender. We recognize that geographic location, age, physical ability, and many other elements combine to create separate and unique life experiences for every AIA member – your colleagues and interns – and your current and prospective clients, as well. Encouraging these differences and leveraging their potential can ultimately lead to heightened creativity and innovation within your firm, the AIA, and the profession.”

In reviewing this statement the common element that AIA strives to achieve is to create a profession that reflects the society that we serve. Essentially, the members of the architectural profession should have a similar level of diversity as the community in which we live. For the updated report, presented here are changes in representation in our local diversity over the past year as it compares to National statistics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Architect</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Architects</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6.50%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Architects</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2.70%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td></td>
<td>261 AIA</td>
<td></td>
<td>287 AIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Associates</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>25.70%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>26.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Architects</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>15.60%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Architects</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8.30%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td></td>
<td>109 Assoc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>106 Assoc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Findings: 2008 results to 2009 for Architect Members

The most dramatic change is the 3 fold increase of Female Architect members in Las Vegas which is up from 3% to 9% in 2009. Although this figure is still approximately 30% below the National Average, it still shows a strong improvement in our local diversity relative to female Architects who were previously at approximately 80% below National statistics. The other diversity areas show minimal changes from last years figures.

Findings: 2008 results to 2009 for Associate Members

The most dramatic change in Associate membership is in Asian Associate AIA membership which dropped by nearly 3 fold – from 15.6% down to 5.7%. Although the 2008 membership for Asian Associate members was nearly twice that of National, this is still a significant change to occur in a 12 month period. Other areas of Associate diversity have minimal changes such as Hispanic members which dropped by just under 1% - from 8.3% to 7.6%. African-American Associate members remained the same locally – although still 1/3 that of the National figures. Female Associate membership remained steady with only a minor drop most likely due to some of these members becoming Architect members as noted by the 3 fold gain in that category locally.

So what does this all mean for the Las Vegas Architectural community? It shows that in terms of our local AIA statistics, we are still under represented in the local Diversity of our membership. Some areas, such as female Architect members have improved significantly. While other areas, such as Associate members have declined substantially. However, even though the statistics still show Las Vegas trailing behind the National figures for Diversity, the fact that our Associate membership is nearly twice as strong in most categories as our Architect membership indicates that our future Architect members, our current Associates, will bring a more diverse group of individuals to our profession and our local representation than in years past.

For more information on Diversity and the AIA, please visit the AIA National web page for Diversity and Inclusion located at: http://www.aia.org/about/initiatives/AIAS078656
Local Building Department Service Improves!

Jim Stroh, AIA
Code Committee Chairman

Over the past year, the AIA Las Vegas Code Committee has been working with local building departments to improve the overall development review process. In the County, a series of "Business Recovery Task Force" meetings were held last year to assess the potential for improvement, and to address problems identified by us and our industry colleagues. In essence, we felt as if the level of customer service had diminished during the last boom. To their credit, the County has quickly acted upon our concerns, implementing a series of significant improvements in code interpretation, over-the-counter reviews, and overall customer service. It's made a difference. We congratulate Assistant Director Greg Franklin, and Director Ron Lynn for implementing these improvements - thanks for listening to our concerns.

This past fall, the City of Las Vegas commissioned a report by Kirchhoff & Associates to study the City's development review process and make recommendations for improvement. That study, which can be downloaded at http://www5.lasvegasnevada.gov/sirepub/cache/2/exjivzqzagqdrnw0ohlzs45/31598620202201010804281.PDF offers a "warts and all" assessment of the City's current practices, and provides a long list of recommendations for improvement. AIA Las Vegas provided a "white paper" (written by the Code Committee) in support of these efforts, which was appended to the report and can be found in Appendix E, page 147. We have already seen tangible improvements, and look forward to full implementation of the report's recommendations. It takes a lot of courage to ask whether you're doing a good job. The City has done just that with this groundbreaking study, and we congratulate the City Council, City Manager Betsy Fretwell, Deputy City Manager Jim Nichols, Building and Safety Director Chris Knight, and the many others who have embraced change and shown a commitment to this process. It's already making a difference. Thank you!

To the City of Las Vegas and to the County, please don't stop now! The effort spent now will pay myriad dividends in the coming years, and will surely position this valley for the next boom. In the meantime, these improvements will allow us to more effectively and more efficiently compete in the current not-so-booming marketplace.

To the Henderson and North Las Vegas, we haven't forgotten about you. This year we'll be asking you to take an introspective look at your development review processes too. With every incremental improvement in efficiency and service, our paper projects draw closer to fruition. We know you won't let us down, and hope you know that we'll do whatever we can to help. We have a little extra time on our hands these days, and stand ready to provide whatever heavy lifting you assign us.

Our agenda in the coming months? Well, let's start with regional consistency. Some great strides have been made in the last couple of years. For the first time in decades, all four major valley jurisdictions have adopted the same building codes with the same amendments - what a concept! But interpretations of those codes have not been regionally standardized, and not every jurisdiction accepts the regional interpretations that have been made. We'd like to have all the local fire departments on the same page too. How about a regional appeals process? And we'd like to study the possibility of regional guidelines for planning and zoning, and public works.

Sounds like a lot to bite off at one time, but did I mention we have a little extra time on our hands these days? After all, we all want the same thing - safe, well designed, efficient development, affordable in this and future markets. Want to help us? E-mail me at jim@jimstrohorch.com for an invitation to our next committee meeting, or with a code issue or building department practice that you think needs attention.
2010 CONTINUING EDUCATION LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

Thursday, March 11, 2010 – “MDF – New Material and Technology” will be presented by Wally Berry of ABS – American Building Supply – Doormerica. To be held in the Auditorium of the 5th Street School.

Thursday, March 25, 2010 – OPEN
Thursday, April 8th and 29th – OPEN
Thursday, May 13th and 27th – OPEN
Thursday, June 10, 2010 – “Projection Screens” will be presented by Robert Powers of Da-Lite Screen Company. To be held in the Auditorium of the 5th Street School
Thursday, June 24, 2010 – OPEN
Thursday, July 8, 2010 – OPEN
Thursday, July 22, 2010 – “Demystifying Resins” will be presented by Adam Reeder of 3form. To be held in the Auditorium of the 5th Street School.
Thursday, August 12th and 26th, 2010 – OPEN
Thursday, September 9th and 23rd – OPEN
Thursday, October 14th and 28th – OPEN
Thursday, November 11th – Hosted by Kathy Kaiser of Schirmer Engineering – Program and Location TBA
Thursday, December 9th - OPEN

Please note: There is no charge to attend our CE classes. But if you RSVP to attend and then fail to show up, there is a no show fee of $20.

KLAI JUBA SCHEDULE SPRING 2010

KLAI Juba Night @ the Movies
(all movies at 5:15 PM, UNLV School of Architecture auditorium)

March 3rd - Osamu Tezuka, “Metropolis” (Japanese Anime, 2001)

March 17th - What is Postmodernism? Two short films and discussion, “Post Modernism” and “Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown”

April 7th - King Vidor, “The Fountainhead”

KLAI Juba Speaker Series
(all speakers at 6:00 at 5th St School; reception to follow)

March 10th - Raul J. Garcia, Architectural Photographer
“The Image of a Building”

April 13th - Roger Thomas, Wynn Corporation - “Unlimited Luxury”

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AIA LAS VEGAS SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for 2010 Scholarships are now available online at www.aialasvegas.org and from the AIA office and the UNLV School of Architecture office. Applications must be completed and turned in to Becky Hambly at the UNLV School of Architecture by noon on Friday, April 23rd. Recipients will be announced at the end of school barbecue on Friday, April 30th.

Following is a list of scholarships that are available:

3rd Year (2nd Year going into 3rd in Fall of 2010)
- Felicia Friedlander Memorial Scholarship - $1,000

4th Year (3rd Year going into 4th in Fall of 2010)
- AIA Las Vegas Scholarship - $3,000
- William Snyder Honorary Scholarship - $1,000
- SHarchitecture Honorary Scholarship - $2,000
- YWS Architects Award of Excellence - $2,500
- Carpenter Sellers DelGatto Travel Award - $1,500

5th Year (4th Year going into 5th in Fall of 2010)
- John Klaw Honorary Scholarship - $2,500
- YWS Architects Award of Excellence - $3,500

2010 AIA EPYAF ARE WORKSHOPS

The goal of the ARE workshop series is to offer those emerging professionals currently preparing for and/or taking the Architectural Registration Exams a series of 4-hour workshops covering the seven sections of the exam. A registered architect or professional engineer with a working knowledge of the content covered by the exam will teach each session. The schedule is arranged to help candidates complete one exam per month. All sessions will be hosted by the College of Southern Nevada at the Western High Tech Campus (4601 W. Bonanza) on Saturdays from 8:00am-12:00pm.

Charges per subject:
$10 with advance RSVP for members
$15 with advance RSVP for non-members
$15 at the door for everyone.
One may pay for the entire series at one point by paying $65 (members) or $100 (non-members).
Please visit www.aialasvegas.org to see the schedule for ARE classes available and to RSVP.

Three unemployed volunteers may attend the classes for free. First come, first serve! Contact Paul Cline (paul.cline@spark.net 702.997.5679) or Jeff Wagner (JWagner@ralf-nevada.com 702.435.7234) for sponsorship opportunities and further details.
ARCHITECTURE STUDIES LIBRARY

EXHIBIT
School of Architecture Faculty / Staff
Art Show.

NEW BOOKS
The new books list for last month is available at http://library.unlv.edu/collections/newstuff/newbk.php?catid=2

Here are a few selected titles:

CLIMATE AND ARCHITECTURE / Torben Dahl

THE ARCHITECT'S GUIDE TO RESIDENTIAL DESIGN / Michael Malone

SUSTAINABLE SITE DESIGN : CRITERIA, PROCESS, AND CASE STUDIES FOR INTEGRATING SITE AND REGION IN LANDSCAPE DESIGN / Claudia Dinep, Kristin Schwab
Hoboken, N.J. : J. Wiley, c2010

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