

OCULUS

NEW YORK CHAPTER / THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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VOLUME 45, NUMBER 2

SECOND SURVEY OF OFFICE ACTIVITIES

The Office Practice Committee has completed its second quarterly survey of chapter office activity levels. Appearing with this issue of OCULUS are the results of questionnaires mailed to the entire membership. Response to this questionnaire was excellent, with 101 architectural firms responding, including most of the better known firms in the city. Activity levels have been measured by numbers of technical employees (including principals) in each firm.

The first graph shows all respondents, and the other charts show responses by size of offices. Although minor variations occur depending on size, the general trend of work shows a total drop of 17% since January 1, 1971, and indicates a drop of 4.9% between March 31st and June 30, 1971.

Concerning the question of anticipated work for the next six months, the following responses were submitted:

STATUS	NO. OF FIRMS
Expect Increase	23
Expect Decrease	22
Remains about same	53
Undecided	2

The Office Practice Committee would welcome suggestions from the membership concerning this subject.

COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Lawrence Litchfield, Chairman of the Commission on Professional Affairs, reports that there are many areas which his commission, through its committees, will be investigating. Some will be a continuation of last year's work while additional projects will be initiated this year. The following is an indication of the commission's scope of activity.

The Building Industry Coordinating Committee will seek to establish relationships with contractor's groups in the city and will do likewise in the state through the NYSAA's BICC committee. Michael Maas, the committee's chairman, is also a member of the state committee.

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MEMBERS TO RECEIVE PLAN CRITIQUE

Advance copies of the New York Chapter's critique of the Plan for New York City have been given to Donald Elliott, Chairman of the Planning Commission, and members of his staff, as a gesture of courtesy. Approximately twelve copies are being sent to members of the press. A more finished copy will be mailed to all chapter members.

The critique was prepared by the Commission on Urban Design with principal organization done by the Urban Design Committee, of which Walter Rutes was chairman. The Urban Design Committee members and all those who participated in its development deserve credit for accomplishing a difficult task.

The background material has been ready since June. During the summer months, the Executive Committee, James Rossant, and George Lewis have refined the introductory statement. The New York Chapter of the American Institute of Planners released their statement early in September. KK

THE ARCHITECT AND NEW YORK STATE NYSAA/AIA 1971 CONVENTION THEME

The Architect and his work with those New York State Agencies which control extensive construction programs will be the theme of the 1971 Annual Conferences and Convention of the New York State Association of Architects/AIA at Kutsher's in Monticello, October 18-21.

The Conference will have an entirely new format featuring closed-circuit TV, Video playback and a continuous film program. Informal workshops will be moderated by key members of State Agencies on such subjects as Architect Selection and Compensation, Advance Planning, Contracts, Site Selection, Programming, Design Procedure, Contractor Selection and Qualification, Cost Accounting, etc. Wednesday, a day in which activities of participating State Agencies will be given important treatment, will have George A. Dudley, Chairman of the New York State Council on Architecture, as the keynoter.

Among the Agency Directors expected to attend are: Edward J. Logue, President of the Urban Develop-

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Frederick G. Frost Jr., FAIA, President	Lawrence Litchfield
James S. Polshek, 1st Vice-Pres.	Howard H. Juster
Robert F. Gatje, Vice President	James A. Rossant
James Max Bond, Vice President	T. Merrill Prentice, Jr.
Der Scutt, Secretary	Richard Stein
James B. Baker, Treasurer	Judith Edelman

OCULUS COMMITTEE

Kurt Karmin	J. Arvid Klein, Editor and Chairman
Linda Yang	John Doran
David P. Helpert	Joel D. Kaufman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS: SEPT. 15

- Approved three subjects for study to be recommended to applicants for the Brunner Scholarship: Computers, an investigation of their status in the professional offices and an evaluation of their worth; Minority Groups in the Profession, a report on their access to the professional schools, the schools structuring of curricula for them, and their access to the profession; Design, a report on the effects of ecology and climatic influence on the design of buildings and communities noting the magnitude of their effects on the ecological system of the area; with the provision that other subjects should not be precluded.
- Approved a preliminary draft of the 1971-72 budget.
- Considered a broadening of the purpose of the Public Service Fund Committee's fund raising plans, which heretofore have been directed wholly toward the minority scholarship programs.
- Reiterated the Chapter's recognition of the importance of the Women's Auxiliary and its contributions to the profession and encouraged growth of its membership.
- Reviewed proposed resolutions which are to be submitted to the State Association of Architects Convention in preparation for the Chapter's Pre-Convention Meeting on September 22d.
- Reviewed the Public Agencies Committee's efforts towards an equitable City-wide contract.

CHAPTER FOUNDATION ACTIONS: Sept. 15, 1971

- Allocated Funds for the 1971-72 Chapter-ARCH students' scholarships and for the Equal Opportunities Awards Program (these will be reported in a future OCULUS).

1972 MAYOR'S PANEL OF ARCHITECTS

Applications for 1972 Mayor's Panel of Architects will be sent to all members of the 1971 Panel. Others may obtain application blanks at Room 1800, Dept. of Public Works, Municipal Bldg., Centre and Chambers Streets, NYC 10007. Applications will be mailed when the request is accompanied by a stamped self-addressed 9½ inch envelope. All applications with accompanying photographs, where required, must be mailed or delivered to the above DPW office not later than Oct. 21.

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH COMMITTEE
14 YEARS & IMPRESSIVE SERVICE

The Hospitals and Health Committee's Annual Conference, open to all NYCAIA members and dedicated to "Life Safety in Health Facilities", will be held all day, Thursday and Friday, October 21 and 22, at the United Nations Association, 345 East 46th Street. The conference will offer a "broad, multidisciplinary airing of many viewpoints": designers will exchange views with fire-fighters, code specialists, insurance representatives, agency directors, and physicians, brought together from all over the country. Additional copies of the flier describing this event are available from the Chapter.

The conference, however, is only the first of many activities to be undertaken by the popular, 14-year-old Hospitals and Health Committee, chaired by David L. Ginsberg. With an active membership that has grown to 55 people this year, the committee is a microcosm of the Chapter in its composition and organization. Members, drawn from large and small firms, and from governmental agencies, participate in three sections: Activities, Projects, and Policy.

Clifford Wolfe's Activities Section will once again offer, after a year's hiatus, a basic hospital design course. The 10-week program, coordinated with Pratt Institute by the Education Sub-Committee under Isaiah Ehrlich, will be run by a faculty which includes physicians, hospital administrators and practicing architects. The course, open to Chapter members and their professional employees, begins Monday, October 11, and will be held at the High School of Art and Design, 57th Street and Second Avenue. Registration is \$80. Further information is available from the Pratt Manhattan Center, 683-8877.

Other Activities Section programs that will be continued are the monthly technical and project review meetings, special field trips, and special dinners. These will be under the direction of Thomas J. Kupper, Murray Sput, and Allen Parrette. Under study are an office preceptorship program, where architectural students from Columbia University will be placed on health facilities projects in participating offices, and ways to coordinate with the Chapter's minority training programs.

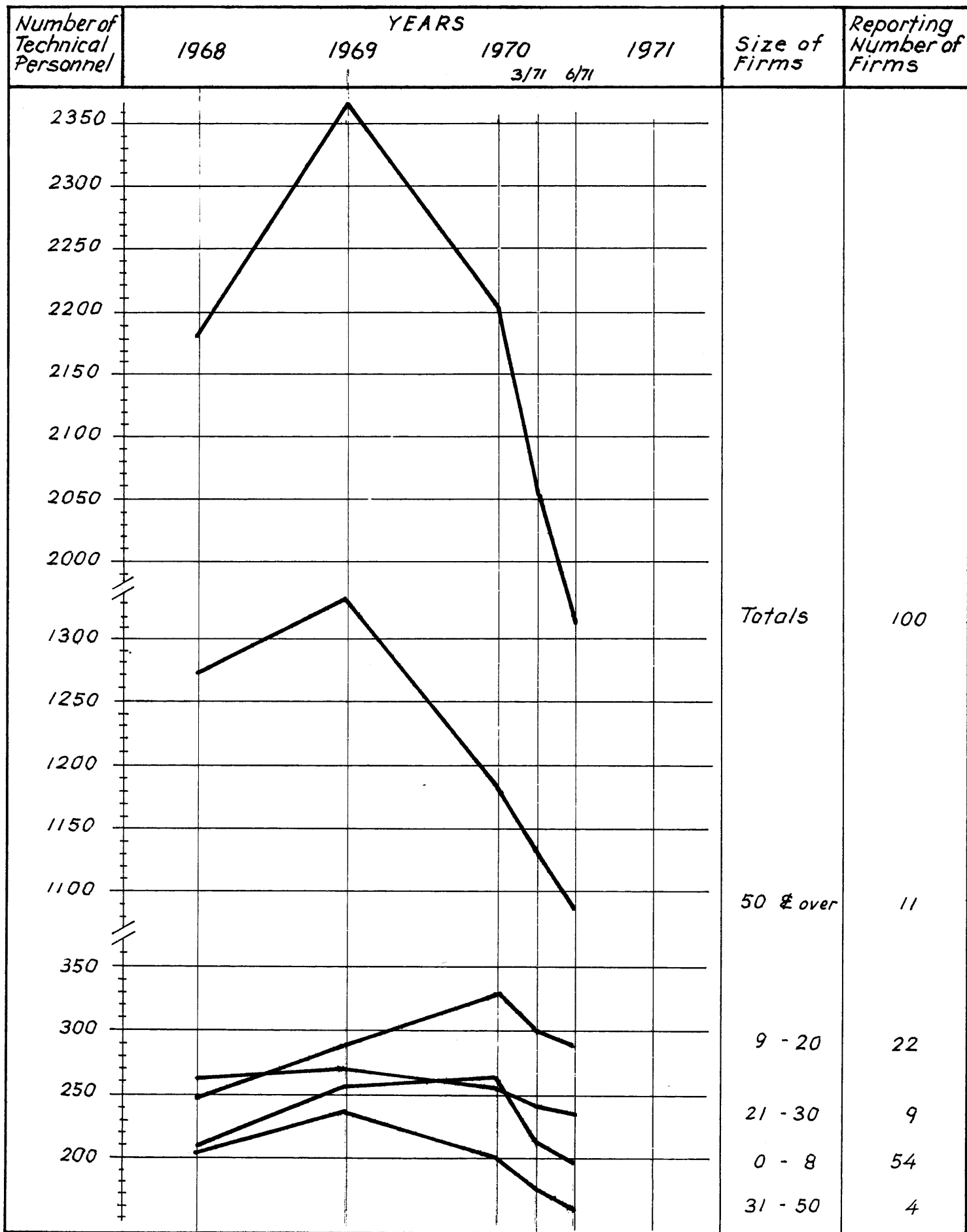
Joseph Shein's Projects Section will publish two important guides, being developed under the direction of Saul Ellenbogen. First off the presses will be the *Health Facilities Guide* to 70 installations in the North East, indicating the important features of each. The second, the *Health Facilities Cost Guide*, will list numerous projects, broken down in detail, listing costs for each facet of the design. This will be a tremendous asset in budgeting hospital construction costs.

The results of last year's research and field trips, which concentrated on the design of interstitial spaces in health facilities, is also being organized for publication.

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NEW YORK CHAPTER, AIA
ARCHITECTURAL PERSONNEL IN CHAPTER OFFICES

Survey No. 2, April through June, 1971





View from the 103rd floor

CHAPTER IS HOST TO RUSSIAN ARCHITECTS ON FIRST PART OF U.S. TOUR

Four Russian architects saw both the spectacular and the grim on a fast tour of New York City, between September 8th and 11th. As part of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. cultural exchange program, Igor A. Alferov, Head Architect, Kharkov, Ukraine; Dmitriy V. Bruns, Head Architect, Tallin, Estonia; Igor A. Pokrovskiy, Chief Architectural Workshop, Moscow; and Iriaida V. Shiskina, Secretary of Administration of U.S.S.R. Architects Union, Moscow, spent three weeks visiting New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Houston, and Washington, as guest of the A.I.A. and the individual chapters.

In New York, it went something like this. Met by James Polshek, George Lewis, and Bess Balchen of "AIA Journal" at Kennedy on the 8th. Airport confusion minimized with help from Anatoly Dyuzhev, First Secretary of Soviet Embassy, Cultural Affairs. Everyone talking at once in Municipal Art Society bus on way to Engineers Club. Dinner at Steak and Brew at 12th and Fifth Avenue. Beer and many laughs.

On morning of 9th, a walking tour of midtown. Visited offices of Urban Development Corporation. Afternoon tour of UDC projects on Welfare Island and Harlem. Museum of Modern Art in late afternoon. Met by Jordan Gruzen for visit to Gruzen & Partners (designing American Embassy in Moscow). Dinner with Gruzens.

On 10th, took subway trip to City Planning Commission. Made inevitable comparison with New York's and Moscow's systems. Not many laughs. Chairman Donald Elliott and staff explained their approach to urban design. Lunch at Miller's in Woolworth Building (arranged, as most events were, by William Hamby, Visitors Committee Chairman). Interviewed by the "New York Times". Walking tour of lower Manhattan, ending at World Trade Center. Taken to 103rd floor by Joseph Solomon, project manager for Emery Roth & Sons. Streets visible through smog, but tiny. Much camera shooting.

These are some of their comments. On New York—"It is difficult to imagine the scale of your tall buildings. You have to see them." On cars in cities—"Our policy is to improve public transportation. Cars should be used for recreation, shopping, cultural activities." Getting commissions in Russia—"Much of it is by competition." Women in architecture—"In the U.S.S.R. about 40% in the profession are women." Most impressive part of New York trip—"World Trade Center". To New York Chapter architects—"We wish to express our gratitude for all the arrangements and for your most cordial hospitality." And then they were off to Boston.

KK

WAA 14 YEARS & \$110,000 IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT GRANTS

Part of the Women's Architectural Auxiliary's 1971 membership drive will be a campaign to acquaint the NYCAIA with the Auxiliary's goals and activities.

This will be the WAA's 14th year of assisting young people toward a career in architecture. More than 300 students have been supported by WAA grants now totaling \$110,000, given either through NYCAIA scholarship programs or directly to the architectural departments at City College of New York, Columbia University, Cooper Union and Pratt Institute. In addition to this financial aid, the WAA, which is wholly volunteer, functions as a right hand to the NYCAIA for the "advancement of the art and science of architecture".

According to its By-Laws, the WAA can draw its voting members only from wives (and other distaff relatives) of NYCAIA members. A new brochure describing the Auxiliary can be sent to these ladies on request to Mrs. David Paul Helpert, 288-5845.

All wives of NYCAIA members are invited to the first reception of the WAA's fall calendar, an open house, Wednesday, October 27, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Bronson Binger and Mrs. Rolland D. Thompson, co-hostesses, urge that all attend this "free and friendly get-together", which will be held at Mrs. Binger's townhouse home, 25 East 94th Street. Refreshments will be served.

Non-WAA women are also welcome at the WAA's semi-annual meeting, Tuesday, October 5th, at 10:30 a.m., at the Princeton Club, 15 West 43rd Street. This will be followed at noon by cocktails, lunch, and a talk by noted author Elizabeth Janeway. This event is open to the entire NYCAIA membership as well (see the September OCULUS).

An enlarged WAA body—with its support and enthusiasm—can result in an important increase in funds raised for (and outside) the Chapter. Much of this money provides a sizable and stable base for NYCAIA scholarship projects. Any questions on the WAA should be directed to Miss Winifred Allwork, President, at 249-5636.

The Computers in Architecture Committee was formed at the end of last year by its present chairman, Alan Goldsamt. The committee will investigate the manner in which current computer technology can be used by firms of all sizes for administrative and professional tasks.

The Fees and Contracts Committee, under Chairman Curtis Fremond will emphasize the following: continued liaison with the Public Agency Ad Hoc Committee working on a NYC agency contract for architectural services; liaison with the NYSAA Committee on Service, Compensation and Contracts; compensation methods for systems construction and for comprehensive services; reissue of chapter "Statement of Services and Compensation."

Insurance company losses over the past decade indicate that changes to underwriting procedures and coverage may be expected. Such matters continue to be the concern of the Professional Liability Insurance Committee, chaired by Charles Hughes.

The Financing of Construction Committee will continue its investigation of new ways to finance low-income housing. Chaired by Richard Roth Sr., it will also consider how our membership can be better informed concerning the intricacies of construction finance.

The Office Practice Committee will continue its work on the effect of the economy on architects emphasizing: the exploration of chapter administered employee benefit programs; documentation of the effects of the economy on the profession; public relations activity to relate and combat the effects of the economy on architectural practice. Peter Hopf is the committee's chairman. JDK

NYSAA/AIA CONVENTION (Cont. from page 1)

ment Corporation; Commissioner Charles J. Urstadt, Division of Housing and Community Renewal; J. Lawrence Murray, Executive Director of Health & Mental Hygiene Facilities Improvement Corporation; General Almerin C. O'Hara, Director of the Office of General Services; Frank Matzke, FAIA, representing the State University Construction Fund and others.

Twelve resolutions covering such subjects as national priorities, political contributions, unified compensation schedule applicable to all State Agencies, Architect's contracts with State Agencies, single contract for construction, and rescinding the Multiple Dwelling Law will be considered.

OCULUS will report on Chapter participation in detail in the November issue.

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

Because there has been activity toward unionizing the employees of certain New York architectural firms, and since the subject of employment practices is of major importance to employees and employers alike, attention is called to the following informative publication.

Guide to Professional Employment Practices can be obtained for \$2.00 from the Joint Committee on Employment Practices, 2029 "K" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. To quote in part from the Introduction, "This pamphlet attempts to deal with many of the basic concepts which should be kept in mind in establishing and maintaining relationships and to outline basic provisions of current laws which govern efforts to organize employees for unionization and collective bargaining purposes."

The National AIA is one of the co-sponsors of this publication, along with the Consulting Engineers Council and others. GL

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH COMMITTEE (Cont. from page 2)

The Hospital Facilities Laboratory, begun by the Hospitals and Health Committee under the chairmanship of Richard Sonder, recently passed under the aegis of the National AIA. Howard Juster, NYCAIA Commissioner for Building/Site design, will be the Chapter's representative on the National Task Force, which received \$33,000 in grants from the Ford Foundation and the Commonwealth Fund to develop a feasibility format for funding the laboratory on a permanent basis. This study will be completed this fall. DPH

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Information received by the Secretary of NYCAIA regarding the qualifications of candidates for membership will be considered confidential.

CORPORATE

Herbert August	Anthony DiMarinisi
Geoffrey Twining Egginton	Witold W. Kolbuszowski
Anthony G. Pickios	Martin I. Pitt
Andrew Chih-Cheih Shen	Jonathan Putnam Butler

ASSOCIATE

Jay Alexander Almour	Maria Slominska-Rzeszos
Nada J. Williams	

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The NYCAIA welcomes the following members:

CORPORATE

Leon Deller	Jaroslaw J. Burbello
Barie Fez-Barrington	Joy Yoshiya Fuchida
Charles Hyun	Peter Khouri-Haddad
James A. Kingsland	Robert K. Klein
Gerald I. Li	J. Raymond Matz
Tiido Piirimae	Gerald Ira Schiff
Walter Scott	David B. Shoesmith
Allen B. Smith	James M. Snow

ASSOCIATE

Norris Albogah Barr	Maria Theresa Celinska
David William Parry	