

"Methods of Compensation" Rescinded by Chapter

Recommended fee schedules have for many years been issued by this and other Chapters in the spirit of providing architects and clients alike with guidelines to the complex factors which influence the setting of reasonable compensation. However, it has now been made clear — by advice from the Institute and by certain facts made known to the Chapter — that such schedules, even when they are advisory only, may in fact be in violation of the federal antitrust laws.

On the advice of the Chapter's counsel, and following discussion in depth by the Fees & Contracts Committee and the Executive Committee, the membership has been informed by special mailing that the Executive Committee on December 12 passed the following:

Resolved that

The Chapter's Document Methods of Compensation be rescinded and withdrawn because of a possible conflict with the federal antitrust laws and that all copies of the pamphlet and any and all previously issued guidelines concerning architects' compensation should be discarded and destroyed.

Thus, "Methods of Compensation" is not authorized for use by Chapter members or anyone else and should be destroyed. The Fees & Contracts Committee, with the advice of counsel, will consider whether a different, acceptable description of architects' compensation can be published.

GL

State Senator Roy Goodman Meets with Architects To Spur Housing



L. to R.: Michael Maas, Chairman, NYSAA/AIA Political Affairs Committee; Sen. Roy A. Goodman, Chairman, NY State Senate Housing Committee; Martin Schaum, Esq., Legislative Consultant to NYSAA/AIA; and H. Dickson McKenna, Executive Director of the Association.

On November 16, 1973, Michael Maas, chairman of the Political Affairs Committee of the New York State Association of Architects/AIA, accompanied by Martin Schaum, Legislative Consultant, and H. Dickson McKenna, Executive Director of the NYSAA, met with Senator Roy Goodman, chairman of the New York State Senate Housing Committee, to discuss the challenge he made to the profession during the recent State Convention.

The substance of the challenge was that, as architects, we should involve ourselves in a "pro bono publico" effort to help stem the rising tide of decayed housing in our central cities.

The meeting resulted in a plan to form an Ad Hoc team composed of interested architects, contractors and developers, all with a background in housing. The team is now being formed and will have Senator Goodman, whose support is essential for the success of this program, as an ex-officio member. The initial target will be housing rehabilitation, with the hope of developing a pilot project. The lessons learned here may then be applied elsewhere throughout the State by similar teams.

Executive Committee Actions

December 12, 1973

- Approved a By-Law change, to be submitted to vote at the January 16 Chapter meeting, concerning requirements for associate membership.
- Resolved to support the purposes of the Second Avenue Study, which is sponsored by the Municipal Arts Society in cooperation with the City Planning Commission.
- Resolved to support the proposed Special Transit Land Use District at the Board of Estimate hearing December 20.
- Discussed a proposed January survey of the economic situation and the type of commissions in Chapter offices.
- Resolved to rescind the Chapter's "Methods of Compensation" booklet. See article this issue.
- Noted with deep regret the death of Nathan Walker, for many years the Chapter's able legal counsel.

Welcome to New Members

The NYCAIA welcomes the following members:

Corporate

Warren W. Gran (readmission)
Hanford Yang
Charles Silverman
Armand P. Avakian
Samuel M. Schutz
John M. Ellis
Randolph R. Croxton
Sherman S.K. Kung
Antonio G. Martinez
Barbara Neski
Eric N. Singer
Oscar D. Turner, Jr.
John H. Winkler
Thaddeus Wosiwodzki

Professional Associate

Pieter Kramer

Associate

Linda Jansson
Margaret E. Simon
Patrick I. Nwamu

Unassigned

Carl Puchall
Leonard P. Perfido
Lloyd A. Rosenberg

Candidates For Membership

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

Corporate

Ralph Pasquale Albanese
John Gewalt
Paul Segal
Peter Ellis Weisman

Walter Kilham Misquoted

A December 10 article in the *Times* erroneously quoted Walter Kilham as having made a \$25,000 political contribution. The actual amount was rather less, or \$25, as the *Times* noted quickly thereafter.

New York Chapter
The American Institute of Architects
20 West 40th Street
New York, New York 10018
212/565-1866
George S. Lewis, Executive Director

Executive Committee
T. M. Prentice, Jr., President
Herbert B. Oppenheimer, 1st Vice President
Samuel M. Brody, Vice President
Alexander Kouzmanoff, Vice President
Kurt Karmin, Secretary
James B. Baker, Treasurer
Louis P. Giacalone, Director
Anna M. Halpin, Director
J. Arvid Klein, Director
Bernard Rothzeit, Director
Walter A. Rutes, Director
LeRoy E. Tuckett, Director

Oculus Committee
David Paul Helpern, Editor and Chairman
Bonnell Irvine
Norman F. Jacklin
Carl Meinhardt
William B. North
Martin Pitt
Martha Pope
Margaret Esme Simon
Linda Yang

Second Avenue Subway Zoning Amendment

Uncongested pedestrian access to subway stations on the new Second Avenue line is one of the objectives of an amendment to the Zoning Resolution recommended by the City Planning Commission.

A public hearing was held by the Commission on October 23rd. The Board of Estimate may approve, disapprove, or modify the Commission's proposal within 60 days after filing; this period will expire on Jan. 7th.

Speakers supporting the proposed legislation at the October hearing included representatives of the Municipal Art Society, the Fine Arts Federation, the City Club, the Parks Council, the Citizens Housing and Planning Council, the Regional Plan Association, two Community Boards, and the Chapter. In opposition was the Real Estate Board of New York.

The proposal would require, for a period of one year, that developers of sites adjoining Second Ave. subway stations submit plans to the City Planning Commission so that, if appropriate, easement areas may be designated. Such easements would be for one or more of the following purposes:

1. Convenient weather-protected pedestrian access and reduction of sidewalk congestion.
2. More light and air for subway stations and mezzanines.
3. Pedestrian amenities and design integration to preserve the character of existing communities.
4. Conservation of value of land and buildings.
5. Elimination or reduction of adverse environmental impact accompanying subway development.

The interim period of one year will permit the completion of a study, now underway, of various planning alternatives and the development of permanent policy recommendations for adoption by the City. This work has been financed by the National Endowment for the Arts through the Municipal Art Society in cooperation with the City Planning Commission. There is an advisory committee composed of representatives of several Community Planning Boards, some Second Avenue developers, tenants, the Urban Design Council, the MTA, and the Chapter. A preliminary report of some of the alternatives now being studied was made to the Executive Committee of the Chapter by Ms. Raquel Ramati on Dec. 12th.

The Chapter will continue its support of the proposed amendment, along with that of the Special Madison Avenue District described in the December *Oculus*.

WBN

January Chapter Meeting: Strictly Business

It used to be a lunch with guest speakers, but this year the Executive Committee plans to report to the membership — and, more important, hear from it.

Time: Wednesday, January 16, cash bar at 5:00, meeting 5:30-7:00.
Place: Chapter Headquarters.

Top on the agenda is the depressed economic situation: how the Chapter is attempting to ascertain the facts, and what it may be able to do.

The six directors on the Executive Committee will report on committee activity in their commissions.

Richard Dempsey, Chapter member who is director of the NYC Bicentennial Corporation's "Wateredges" project will indicate how the Chapter can participate in the Bicentennial.

Nominations for the Nominating Committee will be received from the floor. An article elsewhere in this issue explains how the Chapter's nominating procedure is set up independently of the leadership already in office.

A by-law proposal which would broaden the definition of associate membership will be put to vote.

You are urged to come!
GL

Recent Public Statements by the Chapter on Housing, Other Matters

- Support of amendments to the Landmarks Preservation Law at City Council hearings.
- Letters to Mayor-elect Beame and Mayor Lindsay recommending appointment of John Zuccotti as Chairman of the Planning Commission, and three names, including Alex Cooper, to the Robertson vacancy on the Commission. Cooper has been appointed, and Beame has said he will appoint Zuccotti.
- Letters from Harold Edelman, Chairman of the Housing Committee, to members of the Senate urging passage (1) of a bill to continue present housing programs until new programs are ready for implementation and (2) passage of an omnibus housing bill. Edelman recommended that the percentage of low-income families in moderate-income project be increased over 20%, and that the public housing program be continued.
- Support at the Board of Estimate of the proposed Special Transit Land Use District and the Special Madison Avenue District. See article this issue.
- Recommended to Mayor-elect Beame that he consider for Buildings Commissioner either H.I. Sigman or Jeremiah T. Walsh.

Landmarks Preservation Law Amended

Major amendments to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Law were passed by the City Council on November 27th and signed into law by Mayor Lindsay on December 17th.

Under the changes the Landmarks Commission will now have the power to hold public hearings at any time on proposed new landmarks and historic districts. Previously the Commission had been permitted to have six months of designation hearings at three-year intervals.

Also, the amended law will now authorize the Commission to designate interior landmarks "customarily open or accessible to the public." However, church interiors are excluded from designation by the Commission. Interiors which may be considered for designation include: the main hall of the Metropolitan Museum, the entranceway at the 42nd Street Public Library, the banking room at the Bowery Savings Bank on 42nd Street and one or more theatres.

The amendment also authorizes the Commission to designate a list of scenic landmarks located on property owned by the City. Previously, the Commission had designated individual structures in the City's parks; this amendment may lead to the designation of entire parks permitting the Landmarks Commission to comment on proposed changes there.

The changes in the Landmarks Law were contained in a bill sponsored by Thomas Cuite, Majority Leader of the Council, Councilmen Edward Sadowsky and Carter Burden.

Several members of the Chapter testified before the City Council Committee: Giorgio Cavaglieri, FAIA, Past President of the Chapter; Tim Prentice, President of the Chapter; Charles Hughes, Chairman of the Zoning Committee; and William Shopsin and Denis Kuhn, past and present Chairmen of the Historic Buildings Committee.

BI

Jump!

On October 29th, 1973 JUMP began its seventh Training Program with 19 trainees. JUMP, which stands for Joint Urban Manpower Program, is one of the first MA 7 programs approved by the U.S. Department of Labor for the current fiscal year. Trainees spend half the day in on-the-job-training and the other half in drafting classes at Delehanty Institute.

Frank Munzer is co-chairman of the Board of Directors. JUMP is being supported by 18 engineering firms and one architectural firm, The Eggers Partnership, which presently has two former JUMP trainees on the boards engaged in very productive work.

An opportunity is at hand to help disadvantaged youth and gain good productive employees. JUMP hopes that its continued success will be an incentive to Architects to participate in its next program (No. 8).

NJ

The Word Is Out: January 30 To Be Gala of the Year

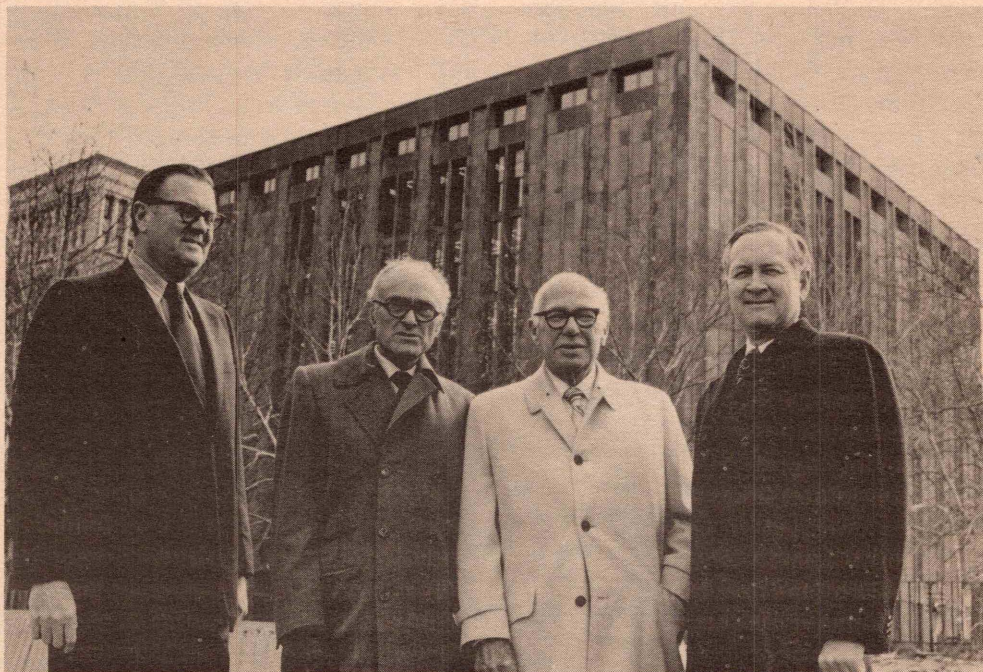
To forecast from early ticket requests, 1000 architects and architecture buffs will attend the highlight of the architectural social season (for those of you who follow such items): the WAA and the NYC/AIA party marking the Auxiliary's 15th anniversary. The event will be January 30, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the newly opened Bobst Library at New York University.

It will be this year's only party for the architectural community, as well as the only function to raise money for architectural scholarships.

Cited by the New York Times as "one of New York's most spectacular architectural experiences", the Elmer Holmes Bobst Library at 70 Washington Square South has been graciously made available by NYU President James M. Hester, also Honorary Chairman of the event. The building was designed by Philip Johnson, FAIA, and Richard Foster, who are the Guests of Honor.

Both Philip Johnson and Dr. Hester will speak. Be sure to look for Mr. Johnson's article on the Bobst Library and "The State of the Art Today", which will be in the souvenir program to be given to guests.

On view just that evening will be the working drawings for the project, the model of the proposed Washington Square campus of NYU, part of Robert Frost's personal collection, and — on the "tour route" — the President's suite of offices, the NYU Senate Lounge, library staff offices, the Special Collections Room, and typical lounge and open-stack spaces.



Pictured in front of the Bobst Library are (L. to R.) Richard Foster and Philip Johnson, FAIA, Library Architects; Elmer Holmes Bobst, Library Benefactor; and Dr. James Hester, NYU President. Mr. Foster and Mr. Johnson are Guests of Honor at the WAA's 15th Anniversary event at the Library, and Mr. Bobst and Dr. Hester are Honorary Chairmen.

"Partying" will be in the dramatic, 12-story-high atrium. Music will come from the Sunjets Steel Band Orchestra, a 22-member, 62-piece ensemble, whose repertoire ranges from rock to calypso to a (rather) unique rendition of Brahms' "Hungarian Rhapsody", which brought down the house at the Sunjets' recent Carnegie Hall debut. The Bobst Circulation Desk will be transformed into the "longest cash bar in New York". A lavish French Cheese buffet is being provided by Foods from France, of the New York Food and Wine Information Center.

Tickets are \$15 each, completely tax exempt. The WAA telephone number is 736-1286; call Mrs. David Helpern, 15th-Anniversary Party chairman, for information.

As *Oculus* goes to press, we have received word from the National AIA that Archibald C. Rogers, FAIA, President of the Institute, and William ("Chick") Marshall, Jr., FAIA, First Vice President, will both be at the Bobst reception to honor the WAA and its 15 productive years of service to architectural education.

We hope Chapter members will take advantage of the anniversary party to meet and talk with these special visitors.

How Chapter Officers, Directors and Elective Committees are Chosen

Each year around this time, questions arise as to how the Chapter's elected positions are filled. Some of the questions come out of a general lack of information on what the process is. This article will give a brief general description of the process but will by no means be a definitive statement on the topic.

The process is of course governed by the Chapter's Bylaws. The Bylaws describe the formation of a Committee on Nominations each year, to nominate a slate of candidates for officers, directors and elective committees. Since this slate becomes the recommended slate which is voted on at the Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee in effect chooses the candidates that will be elected.

Independent nominations for all positions can also be made prior to the Annual Meeting. The requirements for such nominations are that they be submitted to the Executive Committee at least 30 days before the meeting and that a minimum of 10 signatures from assigned members accompany each nomination. A full list containing both the recommended nominations submitted by the Committee on Nominations and all independent nominations is then sent to each assigned member at least 21 days before the Annual Meeting.

Since the Committee on Nominations chooses the recommended slate, it is important to understand how it works. As prescribed in the Bylaws, this committee is made up of five assigned members of the Chapter who are *elected by the full assigned membership*. The nominations for this Committee are made at a regular meeting of the Chapter, 15 days after the first of each calendar year. This meeting, which in years past was a luncheon meeting with a lunch charge, has this season been changed to a straight meeting solely for the purpose of making nominations from the floor for candidates for the Nominating Committee. This season this meeting will take place at Chapter Headquarters on January 16, 1974 at 5:30 P.M.

At the Executive Committee meeting following this meeting, the Executive Committee may make additional nominations for the Nominating Committee. This specific right is the only option the Executive Committee has regarding all elected positions in the Chapter that could be construed to be a special privilege.

Within 10 days after the nominations are completed — after the Executive Committee has met — each assigned member must be sent a letter ballot containing the full list of nominations for the Nominating Committee requesting five choices for election. The five receiving the highest number of votes constitute the Committee on Nominations. This Committee then prepares the Chapter's recommended slate of nominees for all vacancies among officers, directors and elective committees. They must submit their slate to the Chapter's Secretary 40 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The five members elect their own chairman, meet as necessary to perform their duties, need 4 members to constitute a quorum and need a concurring vote of 4 members to confirm any action.

Basically, that is how it happens. The Nominating Committee does occupy a special position because their choices become the recommended slate. But it is important to remember that the committee is elected by the entire membership. No special relationship or means of control exists between the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee. They are completely independent. This point deserves special note because it is easily misunderstood. Also, according to the Bylaws, there are no means by which the Executive Committee can perpetuate itself. Membership on this Committee is specifically limited to five or six consecutive years with an interim requirement of 22 months before being again eligible. The nominations for the Nominations Committee are therefore an important and crucial part of the election process. All concerned with the choice of leadership for the Chapter are therefore urged to attend the January 16th meeting to nominate their choices for membership on the Nominating Committee.

CM

Stewardson Travelling Scholarship—1974

Application forms are now available at Chapter headquarters and are due for return on February 1st. To make the Scholarship more attractive, the conditions have been rewritten, and it is hoped to have a large response this year.

All those under 40 who have had at least three years experience in the New York City area are eligible. The Scholarship is in the amount of \$2,000.00 and the required travel period is one month.

MES

TATAC Needs Drafting Equipment

The Architects Technical Assistance Center would welcome contributions of lights, stools and other drafting equipment (except tables) for use in branch offices, or "minicenters," which it is establishing in Model Cities areas.

If anyone knows of drafting equipment which is about to be discarded, please call Josh Lawrence at TATAC, 594-0259.

Architects and Computers

A course in Computer Fundamentals for Architects will once again be offered in the Spring Semester of 1974 of New York City Community College, through its Division of Continuing Education and Extension Services. Designed for the professional architect, the course provides instruction in both computer operation and computer language, the fundamentals necessary for applying architectural theory to computer technology.

Beginning February 5th, classes will be on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. Tuition is \$40.00 for the 10-week course, to be held at Voorhees Campus, New York City Community College, 450 West 41st Street, New York City. For further information please contact Professor Beverly La Puma, at 212-643-5570 or Professor Alexander Vazquez at 212-239-1665.
DR

Plato and the S.E.C.

Large-scale design is one of the most challenging frontiers for today's architects. The amount of material that one must be familiar with and understand in order to approach, for example, a major urban project is often staggering.

The Student Education Committee, with its interdisciplinary team approach to the Lower Manhattan Landing Project appears to be on the right educational track. (See *Oculus*, October 1973).

Back in October two project teams, drawn from the New York City Schools, were set up to attack this problem as they saw fit. Each team consisted of eight students from different planning and design disciplines. And it was decided to approach the project in two stages.

A presentation of Phase I of the project was held at Chapter headquarters Wednesday, December 19th. With the exhibition space available divided approximately in half, the two project teams hung and later explained their presentations.

Visually, the two presentations were markedly different. One was of the freehand, paste-up, sketch type — appearing as a continuous unrolling of a large and lively paper scroll. The other was of the more conventional, harder lined, delineated exhibition panel type — arranged in ordered progression.

What is critical in this exercise? Not so much the result, but the interdisciplinary give-and-take needed to get to the point of presentation. In participating, each team member did not necessarily investigate the requirements of his own design discipline. Students in architecture, planning, landscape architecture and interior design were forced to communicate with one another — and frequently to adopt design discipline positions different from their own. This experience is the crux of the work of the S.E.C. and is as important as arriving at a solution to the Lower Manhattan Landing Project itself.

What does Plato have to do with all this? He would have said, "Who can tackle a City Project with an understanding only of his own field?"
NJ

Program Proposed To Increase Architect's Impact On NYC Schools

For the past year the Chapter's Educational Facilities Committee has been concerned about the diminished role private firms play in New York City's school building program. They have identified the following factors as contributing to this development:

- New classroom capacity is needed in only a few areas as total enrollments have declined.
- Capital budget restrictions of the early 70's reduced the City's ability to fund school projects.
- City officials have adopted a strategy emphasizing renovation rather than new construction to meet remaining facility needs.
- The Office of School Buildings, the architectural unit of the Board of Education, has held its work load relatively constant despite a decline in total activity. Private firms' share of the market has fallen sharply.
- Prime contracts for professional services on renovations have been awarded to engineers. Architects, and the concern for design, have been brought in only as an afterthought.

Decentralization of the school system in 1969 compounded the problems for the architect interested in designing schools. At a symposium sponsored jointly by the Committee and the Educational Facilities Laboratory last May, architects, Board of Education officials, and Community School Board members discussed the planning/building process. It was found that many of the local Boards, which are responsible for hiring architects for projects in their districts, do not fully appreciate the value of early architectural involvement, and have no uniform procedures for screening or selecting interested firms.

Also, the Boards were bewildered by the overly complex planning approval process which often causes project implementation to last as long as 10 years. Project initiation is still carried out centrally by the Office of School Planning, so neither Community Boards—Nor their architects—have a role in site selection, master planning, or space programming.

According to its chairman, Janko Rasic, the Educational Facilities Committee will attempt to improve the profession's position by the following measures:

- A speakers program and slide library designed to familiarize community School Boards with the skills and resources of the City's architectural firms. Particular emphasis will be given to the potential for enhancing educational environments through architectural involvement in school renovation projects.
- A "platform" given to the Mayor-Elect recommending funding for private firms as consultants to Community School Boards during the initial project phases; reorganization of the project review process to expedite implementation; revisions to produce architectural fees more fairly related to actual construction costs.
- A survey of members and City agencies to explore expected volumes and sources of work as well as new or emerging patterns in agency procedure.

MP

Technology Committee's First "Clinic" is Huge Success

The first of the Technology Committee's Series was held on Nov. 20 at Chapter Headquarters. Possibly the largest crowd of this season turned out to listen to and discuss the problems and difficulties of detailing masonry walls.

There were not sufficient seats for the more than 120 people who showed up; many had to stand through the entire meeting. The crowd included many young people and, judging from the questions asked, all were quite interested in the subject being discussed.

It is a credit to the Committee that they are identifying areas of great interest and presenting the information in a most cogent manner. The next Clinic, which will be concerned with windows and glazing, will take place on February 5 at 6:00 P.M. at Chapter Headquarters.

The Technology Committee has also announced that their upcoming meetings on research will deal with individuals whose accomplishments are considered unique in a relatively new field of endeavor, architectural research. The first speaker will be Dr. Harold B. Gores of the Ford Foundation's Educational Facilities Laboratories. This meeting will be held at Chapter Headquarters on Thursday, January 24, 1974 at 5:30 P.M. He will speak on the "New Emphasis in Architectural Services Through Research."

CM