EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY
CALL FOR ENTRIES

ELIGIBILITY
Any individual involved in the design, supply, or construction of a concrete masonry project may participate.
Entries must:
1. Use Concrete Masonry Units produced by a member of the Wisconsin Concrete Masonry Association.
2. Be completed within 5 years of the date of submission.
3. Note: Previous "Excellence in Masonry" Award winning projects may not be re-submitted.

JUDGING
A panel of architects will be asked to select projects that accommodate Concrete Masonry Units in their inherent capacity to fulfill their role in establishing the structure, basing their decision on overall excellence, design, creativity and functionality.

ENTRY FORMAT
Each entry must be accompanied by:
1. A signed official Entry Form. (Form may be duplicated)
2. TEN (10) 35mm slides of the project. Professional quality duplicate slides are recommended. Slides cannot be returned.
   a. Slides should best express to the jury the character of the project and the role of concrete masonry.
   b. Each slide must include:
      1) The project name on the bottom border.
      2) A number in the upper right corner designating numerical sequence of the order you wish the slides to be presented.
      (1 of 10, 2 of 10, etc.)
3. A written presentation explaining the project and its utilization of concrete masonry.

AWARDS
Maynard W. Meyer "Best of Show" & "Excellence" Awards plus competition "Finalists" will be announced at the 11th Annual WCMA Awards Breakfast during the 1999 AIA/Wisconsin Convention. Winners will be featured in WCMA's Newsletter Masonry Insights and published in Wisconsin Architect magazine.

ENTRY DEADLINE: OCTOBER 23, 1998

ENTRY SUBMITTED BY

Name ____________________________
Company ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City/State __________________ Zip Code ______
Phone __________________
Signature __________________ Date ______
*Release: Signing of this entry form constitutes release of the submitted material for use by the WCMA. Responsibility for clearing copyrighted material lies with the entrant.

SEND ENTRIES TO:
WISCONSIN CONCRETE MASONRY ASSOCIATION
c/o Nova Communications, Inc. • 876 W17605 Janesville Road • P.O. Box 655 • Muskego, WI • 53150-0655
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AIA Wisconsin
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The design of schools is a vital part of Wisconsin public architecture. In fact, one of the most exciting aspects is the manner in which school facilities have become more "public" in their service to the total populace. Members of the community are welcomed to continue as lifelong learners, use recreational facilities, libraries and other resources and assist in the education of their children.

As Wisconsin architects, we must be responsive to a client's needs and demonstrate the hope of a greater future for our children.

The methods for teaching and learning continue to grow. We are designing facilities to accommodate instructional, learning and administrative technologies whose potential is just beginning to be realized.

Our designs are better recognizing the humanistic needs of the entire community of users. Children learn individually, one-on-one with teachers and in both small and large groups. The environments must be motivational yet nurturing, visionary yet respectful, secure yet inviting.

Just as with other public buildings, schools are emblematic of our challenge to provide the highest quality of service to the general public. As Wisconsin architects, we must be responsive to a client's needs and demonstrate the hope of a greater future for our children.

Michael D. Gordon, AIA
Engberg Anderson Design Partnership, Inc., has been selected to provide architectural design and engineering services for the conversion of Waukesha's downtown Pix Theater into the Waukesha Civic Theatre’s new home. The Pix will be completely gutted, rebuilt and an addition will also be constructed to house the new 260-seat theater, stage area, scenic shop, rehearsal space, dressing rooms, conference room, administrative office, concession area, corridor/gallery and lobby.

Flad & Associates has been commissioned by the National Institutes of Health to design the renovation of the primary laboratory building for the National Cancer Institute at the Bethesda, Maryland, campus. Affiliated Engineers, Inc., AEPA and James Posey Associates are also members of the project team. The 260,000 square-foot building will be completely renovated in an eight-phase construction sequence while remaining fully occupied.

Flad & Associates has been selected by American Family Insurance to design a new 506,000 square-foot, six-floor office building as an expansion of its National Headquarters Facility in Madison. Flad is also providing design of a new parking facility for 1,270 vehicles; structural engineering, site planning and landscape architecture.

Haag Design Associates, Inc., has recently completed design drawings for Paradise East Springs Wellness Center, West Bend. This multi-tenant building will feature a fitness center, spa treatment center, juice bar, health supplement shop and offices for alternative health care practitioners.

Hammel Green and Abrahamson, Inc., has been selected by the Wisconsin Division of Facilities Development to design a 100,000 square-foot addition to Williams Center at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. HGA is working in association with Hastings & Chivetta Architects, Inc. The addition to the existing student athletic center will include a field house with a 200 meter running track, a weight room/fitness center, locker rooms, a public lobby/concession area, racquetball courts and academic rooms.

Hammel Green and Abrahamson, Inc., has signed an agreement with Affinity Health System in Oshkosh to begin work on one of the largest replacement facilities in the Midwest. The 250,000 square-foot Mercy Medical Center is designed as an integrated healthcare campus, serving outpatient, inpatient and physician office care patients in one setting.

Hammel Green and Abrahamson, Inc., announced ground breaking of a 23,000 square-foot Queen of Apostles Church in Pewaukee, Wisconsin. The new church features a cloistered entry courtyard modeled after medieval church architecture. The cruciform-shaped nave is designed to seat 1,000 people and features exposed wood beams.

Kubala Washatko Architects have recently been named an Authorized Dealership Designer by Harley-Davidson’s Retail Environment Group. As a member of this team, the firm will work with dealers to remodel and expand existing stores or to construct new dealerships throughout the USA.

HSR Associates in collaboration with Louis Wasserman & Associates was awarded the $4.5 million State Bar of Wisconsin Headquarters to be located in the American Family Center Business Park in Madison. Included in the design of the 40,000 square-foot, two-level building is state-of-the-art computer and video conferencing technology.

HSR Associates was also awarded the design-build commission for the $11.3 million UW-Eau Claire Student Residence facility by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Facilities Development. The five-story facility will provide 82 four-bedroom apartment-style units, accommodating a total of 328 students. Included within the development will be a TV lounge with kitchenette, reception/mail desk, lobby space, seminar room, conference room, group study areas on each floor, computer lab, fitness room, laundry, housing-wide storage facility and a hall director’s apartment and office.

HSR Associates has announced these additional projects on their boards:
- A 100,000 square foot expansion of the La Crosse Center to increase capacity for exhibitions and conventions.
- Projects at Volk, Truax and Mitchell Fields for the National Guard Bureau.
- Schematic design and referendum assistance for school additions in the Siren and Potosi School Districts.
- A new 39,000 square-foot branch of the M & I Bank in Middleton.
- A “community center” addition to the elementary School in Etrick.
- A 56,000 square-foot addition and remodeling of the K-12 school for the Cochrane-Fountain City School District.

Marquette General Hospital selected Plunkett Raysich Architects to complete a facility study of its campus. The master plan will include the following areas: pediatrics; cardiac services; acute cardiac unit; psychology units; information services; intensive care and obstetrics.

Northwest Coatings Corp. has selected the Zimmerman Design Group to design a $1.35 million, 30,000 square-foot office and warehouse expansion at the existing facility in Oak Creek, Wisconsin.
Plunkett Raysich Architects has been hired to design a new 43,000 square foot die casting plant and office facility in Mauston, Wisconsin. The building will house the Mauston operations of Stroh Controls, Inc. and affiliate of Stroh Die Casting Co., Inc.

Plunkett Raysich Architects has announced two renovation and expansion projects within the Sussex/Hamilton School District have broken ground. The Maple Avenue Elementary School project will include 20,000 square-feet of expansion space. Templeton Middle School project will include 34,483 square-feet of addition and renovation space.

Plunkett Raysich Architects has recently completed the design of the new 16,758 square-foot, $3.8 million, University Regional Cancer Center at Wausau Hospital.

ProVantage, Inc., a subsidiary of Shopko Stores, Inc., has retained the services of Plunkett Raysich Architects. The firm has been hired to design a new 60,000 square-foot corporate headquarters for ProVantage in the Riverwood Corporate Center in Pewaukee. In addition, Plunkett Raysich Architects Interiors Group will provide interior furnishings for this new headquarters.

The Wisconsin Department of Administration announced that Somerville, Inc., has been selected as architect for the new 300-bed Wisconsin Secure Treatment Center to be located in Mauston. The $30 million new facility will incorporate patient housing, dining and food preparation, medical and dental services, treatment and education functions, administration and direct care staff areas for patients and support services.

Strang, Inc. completed designs for additions to U.S. Post Office facilities in Reedsburg and Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. The Reedsburg project involves a 5,800 square-foot addition to an historic 1937 building. In Wisconsin Dells, Strang designed a 9,400 square-foot addition to an existing facility.

Submit "On the Boards" releases to "On the Boards" c/o Wisconsin Architect, 321 S. Hamilton St., Madison, WI 53703-4000. Photos returned on request. Acceptable media: tiff images, b&w or color photos/artwork 8x10” or smaller (no slides), text in written form or MS Word for Windows. These announcements reserved for AIA Wisconsin member-owned architectural firms only.
Cities Back From The Edge
new life for downtown

Roberta Brandes Gratz with Norman Mintz

Is downtown dead? Can it live again? According to authors Roberta Brandes Gratz and Norman Mintz, most assumptions about how and why cities and urban regions have died—and how to bring them back—are wrong. In CITIES BACK FROM THE EDGE: New Life for Downtown (Wiley/Preservation Press; April 24, 1998; $29.95; Cloth) they examine why after decades of decline and decay, hundreds of downtowns in urban America are coming to life once again.

Gratz and Mintz detail the positive, significant changes that have occurred in downtowns, on commercial streets, and in big city business districts across America. They examine how Urban Husbandry (smaller initiatives over time) rather than overwhelming development has improved cities. The authors demonstrate the advantages of low-cost, modest initiatives over the major resuscitation efforts of traditional large-scale projects, such as convention centers, aquariums, and sports stadiums. Gratz and Mintz reveal how rebuilding communities and stimulating change can reverse the mistakes of past decades, such as misguided transportation planning and superstore retailers. Their book contradicts conventional policies and offers a new plan for not merely rebuilding today's cities, but giving them new life.

Roberta Brandes Gratz, the award-winning journalist and urban critic, is the author of the urban design classic The Living City. A former staff reporter for the New York Post, she has also written for The Wall Street Journal, Newsday, The Nation, The New York Times Magazine, and other publications.

Norman Mintz has played a leading role in the field of downtown revitalization for more than 25 years. He is design director at the Grand Central Partnership in New York City and a consultant on downtown revitalization across the country.
When public officials undertake a building project, whether it involves a new building or remodeling or expanding an existing facility, the selection of an architect is one of the most important events in the process. This is because the architect’s performance can influence the entire course of the project — financial, feasibility, public response, appearance, functional efficiency, construction costs — as well as operating and maintenance costs during the facility’s life.

AIA Wisconsin, through its Qualification Based Selection (QBS) program, can be an invaluable resource to board members, committees and staff when a public owner begins planning for a building project. The QBS program involves working “one-on-one” with public owners to provide information to develop a tailor-made process for selecting an architectural firm based on its qualifications and competence in meeting the owner’s planning, program and building needs.

The QBS program is provided as a public service. Since 1986, AIA Wisconsin has provided assistance to over a thousand public owners who have requested help in establishing an objective and efficient method for selecting an architect. AIA Wisconsin has developed a variety of useful documents and offers the services of a QBS Facilitator to assist owners in developing an individualized selection process.

The following provides answers to the most frequently asked questions about the QBS program.

What is QBS?
QBS stands for Qualification Based Selection.

QBS entails a fair and objective step-by-step process that will facilitate the owner’s selection of an architect based on qualifications and competence in relation to the scope of the project. AIA Wisconsin will assist public owners in establishing a qualifications-based selection process tailored to their particular needs.

There is no charge for this service. The QBS program is provided as a public service and is funded by members of AIA Wisconsin.

Why does AIA Wisconsin provide this public service?
Many public owners do not build or remodel facilities often enough to know how to adequately plan for such a project or how to select an architect in the most efficient and cost effective manner. In working with public owners from throughout the state, AIA Wisconsin has found that establishing a QBS process:

- Saves the owner time and money through an organized approach that gets the architect on board early enough to improve project planning and prevent costly mistakes,
- Saves architects time and money because they know how to better prepare and plan for interviews based on a uniform set of criteria and information shared with all firms,
- Encourages the development of a productive team effort between the public owner and the selected architect right from the start by fostering improved communication.

When should AIA Wisconsin be contacted?
As early in the building planning process as possible. Assisting the owner in understanding the QBS process and developing a brief description of the project and preliminary scope of services are common; the first steps. Once the school district, library, hospital, municipal county, etc., defines its needs, it is the responsibility of the architect to translate them into an appropriate physical design and to work with owner to direct the building program.
What if the owner is already working with an architect?
This is one of the first questions AIA Wisconsin will ask. There is no need to replace an established relationship. The purpose of the QBS program is to assist owners in establishing a selection process only if they do not already have an established relationship with an architect.

What steps are involved in the QBS process?
The QBS process recommended by AIA Wisconsin includes the following steps:

1. The owner develops a Preliminary Scope of Work that describes the project. 
2. A Schedule of Activities for the selection process is established. 
3. A list of architectural firms is assembled from which Statements of Qualifications are requested. 
4. Statements of Qualifications are received and evaluated by owner, including references. 
5. A Short List of firms is established for interviews; and these firms are advised of interview schedule and criteria. 
6. Firms not selected for interviews are informed of evaluation results and thanked for their interest in the project. 
7. A tour of the site and/or facility is arranged for short-list firms. 
8. Interviews are conducted with the short-listed firms; and firms are ranked in accordance with selection criteria. 
9. All short-listed firms are informed of selection results. 
10. A contract is negotiated with the selected architectural firm.

Who recommends QBS?
Local public officials are encouraged to contact the following Wisconsin state agencies and local government and school organizations for references on the QBS program provided by AIA Wisconsin:

- Department of Public Instruction
- Division for School Finances, Resources and Management Services
- Division for Libraries and Community Learning
- Wisconsin Association of School Boards
- Department of Administration
- Division of Facilities Development
- Department of Development
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Wisconsin Counties Association
- Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association
- Wisconsin Towns Association
- League of Wisconsin Municipalities

Where can further information on QBS be obtained?
That’s easy. Contact the AIA Wisconsin office in Madison. You will receive a prompt response to your questions. Please do not hesitate to write or call for QBS information and confidential assistance.

AIA Wisconsin
321 S. Hamilton St.
Madison, WI 53703-4000
Phone: (608) 257-8477
1-800-ARCHITECT
FAX: (608) 257-0242
The design solution incorporated three separate areas: the existing meeting space, a new exhibit hall and lobby. The expansion added more than 218,000 square feet to the existing 37,000 square foot facility.

New buildings include 100,000 square feet of unobstructed exhibit space; support offices, 13 large conference/meeting rooms, food service areas, drayage/storage and 45,000 square feet of lobby and pre-function space.

The lobby adjoins the central “T” intersection of roads within the campus and visually completes the crossroads, effectively transforming the lobby into a continuation of the site circulation system. A 22-foot diameter by 26-foot tall cylindrical chandelier—illuminated by an oculus—creates a central focus within the rotunda, which along with the new plaza, provides an anchor for the complex.

Due to rigid practical constraints, the new and existing meeting rooms are introverted, light-tight areas. The lobby however, is a glass-walled, double height extrovert which links the other two buildings and creates a formal order for the complex.

The front facade incorporates layers of columns, glazing, horizontal wind bracing, overhanging canopies, an hovering white stone wall and a concrete face.

The exhibit hall can accommodate up to four events simultaneously.

Photography: DeMaio Photography, La Casse Studios and Pascus Photographers
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The new 48,000, four level County Annex facility contains County administrative offices, conference rooms, public hearing rooms, public counter/lobby areas, archive storage, UW-Extension offices and Federal tenant office spaces. The County’s architectural priority was to have the building relate to the existing 1950 courthouse, with its sandstone and granite veneer, and form a governmental campus for the County.

Located in Stevens Point’s Central Business District, the building is sited along the sidewalk with the first and second floor windows evenly spaced emphasizing pedestrian scale and activity.

In a gesture to the 50’s modernism of the existing courthouse, the third floor has horizontal emphasis with continuous windows which accented by stainless-steel covered columns.

The bottom levels are veneered in cream colored brick which related both to the existing courthouse and historic brick buildings in the area. The main entry is treated, geometrically, as a drum that sweeps around the street corner and is wrapped in polished red-granite.

*Photography: Eric Oxendorf Studio*
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Sometimes it’s what’s on the outside that counts.

Designed by Waukesha’s Fischer-Fischer-Theis, the New Berlin Fire Station received an Excellence in Masonry Award in 1994 from the Wisconsin Concrete Masonry Association. The firm’s choice for the exterior? A handsome blend of texture and color — decorative block manufactured by Waukesha Block. Ask for the block with good looks and long-lasting, maintenance-free performance... from Waukesha Block.

Waukesha Block
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(414) 290-9000
This private college was formerly a Catholic school with a rich architectural heritage of local brick buildings with beautiful arches and stained glass windows dating from the early 1900s. The school has operated on a limited budget with portable classrooms and austere dorms in order to eventually afford worthy buildings. Since this facility is the first major expenditure, it was deemed necessary to have it used by all departments. Hence, the library, computer classrooms and the administrative boardroom are under this roof.

The design is appropriate for expanding the historic character of the campus. A wall of coniferous trees had to be removed to construct a new boulevard focusing on the new learning center. It flanks what will become a campus quadrangle in the site plan of the future. Parking and traffic circulation are important new considerations.

To fit in with its neighbors, cream colored brick, pitched metal roofs accents of stone, wood and brass details are used. Access to building is at the second floor via covered arcade and curtain wall.

Photography: Poast Architectural Photography
Every summer up to fifty-five male middle school students from the city, with a staff of fifteen, attend this residential camp to focus on academic and social skills. Grounds include a secluded lake to the west and woods, which had to be preserved. Student cabins occupy a small knoll overlooking the lake.

This new hall includes classrooms, lounge space, kitchen, meeting area for assemblies and a chapel, which is also used for theater and meetings. To best utilize space on the beautiful grounds, the hall was built above the existing hygiene facility, which was faced with architectural concrete block reflecting the color of local granite.

All structural elements are left exposed with wood trim painted for accent. Structural poles were cut locally; and their irregular shape adds interest to the rustic design. Skylights and large windows maximize the view of the outdoors. Special attention was paid to materials, as the building is not heated in winter. A limited budget provided opportunities for creative uses of materials in this project.

Photography: David P. Brust, AIA
The Student Life Center serves the intramural sports, recreational activity and child care needs of the students at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. The 100,000 square-foot building was designed to accommodate future additions of racquetball courts, batting cages, a climbing wall area and a recreational pool.

The Center includes a fieldhouse with four basketball courts, six volleyball courts, a 220-yard suspended running track, a strength center, an aerobic room, locker rooms, a multi-purpose room and student lounges. The adjoining 11,800 square foot child care center includes space for 105 children, a kitchen, director and staff offices, a conference room, storage, an observation room, a fenced outdoor patio and a playground.

The concrete frame construction with brick and stone veneer features extensive window areas to provide natural light to the facility and a view of the adjacent bluffs.

Photography: Eric Oxendorf Studio
This family centered activity facility designed on an economical budget focuses the high energy activities within.

The design allows the simultaneous use of multiple activity centers, while maintaining an open and flexible plan. The light steel frame and precast structure creates flexible spaces around the core of locker facilities. A mezzanine level offers non-members public views to the activity areas without compromise of the controlled access to these functions.

The structure is enhanced by generous areas of glass to the exterior and between spaces to reinforce the open concept. The ease of visibility of the on-going activities fosters the image of a high-energy activity center for the family of today.

Photography: Steve Ryan
The architecture firm collaborated with the UW-Fox Valley and the counties of Outagamie and Winnebago to design and construct a new science wing, three-climate greenhouse, and world-class 100-seat planetarium/multimedia complex. The project also involved the relocation of an administrative area and expansion and centralization of student services space. This 46,000 square-foot structure provides cutting-edge instructional science labs that are flexible in use and meet current health and safety regulations.

Flexible science spaces cluster faculty offices around naturally-lit semi-public breakout areas that can be easily accessed by the students and faculty. The new science laboratories meet every regulatory requirement for air quality, ventilation and hazardous materials storage, and include more than 28,000 square feet of new space for the science departments.

The new multi-purpose interdisciplinary Barlow Planetarium boasts premiere distance learning and audiovisual equipment. The use of the planetarium extends beyond astronomy to fields such as biochemistry; and students can observe DNA molecules in 3-D. As part of the epiconcentric theatre-style seating, each chair in the planetarium includes a numerical keypad for audience participation in interactive presentations.

Photography: Peter Tan, AIA
The Rusk County Community Library provides the community with 18,000 square feet of space on two 9,000-square-foot levels. Housed in the upper floor are the adult and children’s collections, separated by a central reference area. This area contains the card catalogue, computer services, and study tables, as well as a lobby, restrooms and support spaces for library staff. The lower level contains a community/library meeting room, a stage and mechanical spaces.

The library is set into a sloping site above a small lake in a city park. This site allows grade level access and south-side windows that overlook the park. Casual seating is provided along these windows in the upper level of the library.

The building’s pitched roof with wide overhangs was chosen to relate the building to other historic buildings in the community.

Photography: Eric Oxendorf Studio
Wausau School District's G.D. Jones Elementary School was designed to replace the original building that was more than 60 years old. To retain the historical significance of the original facility, memorabilia are preserved and showcased in the G.D. Jones Elementary School Museum, located just inside the entrance to the school. In addition, three stone arches from entrances to the original school are located along a two-story wall in the new school's IMC.

Located on the same 7.3-acre site as the original school, the three section, 60,000-square foot facility accommodates 450 K-6 students. Its two-story design allows ample room for outdoor recreational space for students and the community.

Classrooms are "clustered" together by grade with a shared resource room for each grade level. Common areas for use by all grades include an IMC/technology center, art and music rooms, a gymnasium and a multi purpose room/cafeteria. A Parent Resource Center is also included in the facility to provide parents and the community with resources and an area to meet with school staff.

Photography: Eric Oxendorf Studio
This new middle school, built on a 31 acre site, replaced a rapidly deteriorating school located in an industrial portion of Nekoosa. The 124,200 square foot facility is designed to accommodate 700 students in a 4 through 8 grade configuration.

The academic components of the building consist of five wings grouped around a central IMC. Each grade level has its own wing, with a brightly colored portal for orientation, a sense of community and to enliven the interior circulation network. This concept of accenting circulation nodes starts at the exterior entrance elements and extends to the many interior zones.

Unique functional elements include a cafeteria for lunch and assembly use, extensive special education facilities and a state-of-the-art library literature tracking system.
Each functional component of this regional library is identified by different materials and form. The main public portion is a single room with brick exterior, a single slope roof and large windows which open toward eastern views of lakeshore beyond.

Parallel to this component is a simple rectangular brick clad form with lower ceilings, simpler details and a shallow pitch roof. This houses staff work areas and maintenance functions.

Stone from two local quarries provides a second accent material used for the great fireplace in the public room and to define, on the outside, the community meeting room and the local history section.

*Photography: Morley Johnson Photography*
Sun Prairie requested that two new middle schools be built for the school district. The schools accommodate 750 students each and are identical except for accent colors. Bright colors are used throughout the schools to make the students feel comfortable and help them find their way around the facility. The exterior of the schools blends with the surrounding residential neighborhoods, giving the area a sense of community.

A "mall" concept was developed to create a major circulation spine for each middle school, with the IMC as the primary focal point. The buildings' pitched roof allows mechanical rooms to be on the second floor, leaving the entire first floor for student and faculty use. With this amount of space, each grade level is able to have its own learning area and computer technology center.

Both Patrick Marsh and Prairie View middle schools maximize community use after hours. The multipurpose cafetorium, gym and arts area are all available for public use.

*Photography: James Potter, AIA*
The architect was selected to address issues of overcrowding and aging facilities on five projects for the Stoughton School District. Every school in the district was at or above enrollment capacity.

Improvements at the Soughton High School included a new auditorium, greenhouse, fieldhouse and overall renovations. The multi-purpose cafetorium, auditorium and fieldhouse are easily accessible for community use after school.

The new River Bluff Middle School is positioned on a bluff to allow beautiful views of the river from most classrooms. The library is a favorite spot for many students to read while enjoying the natural light and scenery, while the school’s bright cafetorium serves as a gathering place for student groups and assemblies.

Sandhill Middle School is positioned similarly to River Bluff with attractive views. The IMC is a focal point with a warm inviting entrance.

Photography: James Potter, AIA
AIA Wisconsin Continuing Education Survey

Members attending the national 1992 AIA Convention voted to require continuing education for membership. AIA Architect members are now required to earn 36 learning units (LUs) each year, including eight contact hours related to health, safety and welfare issues.

In addition, a growing number of states now have mandatory continuing education (MCE) requirements for licensure as an architect. At present, eleven states require continuing education for licensure (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee and West Virginia). About a dozen other states, including Michigan and Ohio, have enabling legislation for MCE in place, but have not yet implemented the requirement. Minnesota is presently developing the regulations for its MCE requirements. In Illinois, MCE legislation is under consideration.

Method
In August 1997, a survey questionnaire was mailed to 909 AIA Wisconsin members who are registered architects. A total of 290 completed forms were returned.

The purpose of the survey was to collect information about architects’ continuing education activities and their opinions of the AIA Continuing Education System (AIA/CES). This assessment is being used by AIA Wisconsin to respond to the members’ needs relevant to their continuing education.

The survey questionnaire consisted of 17 inquiries and asked the architects about their opinions and knowledge on the following:

- AIA’s support of the AIA/CES program and reporting of LUs.
- Understanding of AIA/CES program.
- Amount of LUs earned.
- Subject areas ranked according to continuing education goals.
- Support of mandatory education.
- Comments, suggestions and questions regarding AIA/CES.

Two methods were used to analyze the questionnaires. The quantitative data was analyzed using SPSS on the VAX/VMS at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. For analysis of the write-in responses (qualitative data), similar responses were grouped together to define categories for the responses from the architects.

Discussion
Since most of the architects (90%) indicated they had received information about AIA/CES program, the efforts of AIA to provide information for its architects has been successful. This is also evident in the large percentage of architects that understand the different AIA/CES quality levels (74%) and difference between “self-designed” and “structured self-reported” activities (70%). Approximately a third of the respondents were not satisfied with the recording and reporting process. The primary reason given by the architects was the time lapse between receiving AIA/CES transcripts. Also, a small percentage (21%) had used AIAONLINE to review their transcript.

Although “registered provider programs” were selected as more convenient and beneficial, approximately half of the respondents have used the “Self-Report Form.” While nine of ten architects indicated they have received information about the AIA/CES program, a quarter of the architects had not earned 36 LUs in a period of three years. Also, slightly less than two-thirds of the respondents support AIA/CES requirements for AIA membership even though three-quarters of the respondents already had earned 36 or more LUs at the time of the survey. This indicates that some architects are participating in the AIA/CES program, but do not approve of the continuing education requirements for AIA membership.

Conclusion
The study identifies several considerations of the AIA/CES program for AIA Wisconsin and AIA. In summary, the following were identified:

- Need to improve the accuracy in reporting and recording the LUs.
- Need to increase the frequency of providing transcripts.
- Need to inform and educate the members about AIAONLINE to review their transcripts and record learning activities.
- Need to provide cost-effective programs in the most important subject areas identified by architects.
- Continue to provide and support both “self-reported” and “registered provider” formats for LUs.
- Continue to promote the benefits of continuing education for architects and the profession.
- Continue to provide information about the AIA/CES program to members.

The Continuing Education Committee has reviewed the survey and its findings. The committee’s recommendation was to support the findings of the survey and to share the information with AIA Wisconsin and AIA national. Early in 1998, a report on the survey and its findings was presented to the AIA Wisconsin Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is using the report when determining policies and programs related to continuing education. Recently, the AIA Wisconsin survey was cited in AIArchitect as a model for member assessment of the AIA/CES program.

EDITOR: The author is the chair of AIA Wisconsin’s Continuing Education Committee and assistant professor, Construction Program, at UW-Stout. You can access your AIA/CES transcript via www.aiaonline.com.
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United by Our Differences
The rejuvenation of AIA Wisconsin’s Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee was one of the many important subjects discussed at the AIA Wisconsin long-range planning retreat this August. The Diversity Committee which has been inactive for some time, will be reactivated with the goal of addressing the needs and concerns of Wisconsin’s under-represented minority and women practitioners.

In the past, all minority groups and women in architecture were treated as a homogeneous group. Over time, anecdotal evidence showed that different ethnic minority groups had unique sets of problems that had to be solved. These professional needs were not easily handled in a one-size-fits-all approach of the previous Diversity Committee’s work. Indeed, a currently active Women in Architecture and National Organization of Minority Architects serve more effectively the needs of women and black architects, respectively.

Clearly, the definition of diversity and needs of our minority and women practitioners varies measurably from one under-represented group to another. Thus, the needs of women in our architectural profession are different from the needs of African-American architects, which are different from the needs of Native American architects and so on.

It is hoped that rejuvenating the Diversity Committee will demonstrate AIA Wisconsin’s recognition of a paradigm shift in what the committee can do to advance the cause of diversifying our architectural profession in Wisconsin. This is particularly important at a time when the global economy and of its trappings alter Wisconsin’s clientele and traditional ways of doing business. The new committee would, for example, be responsible for recognizing the achievements of member firms in their hiring practices and their achievements in building or fostering a better Wisconsin community.

Therefore, the plan of AIA Wisconsin is to change the role and responsibility of the Diversity Committee so that it can more adequately and appropriately address the unique needs of all under-represented groups in architecture. Indeed, a new Diversity Committee composed of representatives of other architectural organizations like WIA and NOMA will make AIA Wisconsin more responsive to their individual needs.

The Board of Directors seeks an individual with leadership skills to chair this very important committee. We need your assistance in identifying that person. We also want volunteers to advance the cause of the architectural profession and of minorities and women through their work on this committee.

EDITOR: The author is a Director-At-Large on the AIA Wisconsin Board of Directors. For more information or to volunteer, contact him at The Wilson Firm, (414) 771-6222.
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Studies dating back to 1942 found health and productivity problems associated with fluorescent lighting. The main problems were with unnatural color, flicker, primary glare, secondary glare and ultraviolet emissions.

In 1954, Virginia Shipman presented her paper entitled “A Constriction of the Perceptual Field Under Stress” at the Eastern Psychology Association in Philadelphia, saying that light stressing causes constriction of the perceptual field, forcing a patient to “observe less, see less, remember less, learn less and become generally less efficient.”

Recently, The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health reports that of the 66 million people in the United States who work with a computer, an alarming 88% suffer from eyestrain.

Spectrum Filters, a new technology, corrects most of the problems associated with fluorescent lighting. The purpose of the filter is to color correct the light to that of natural sunlight. It also polarizes the light source for better visual acuity and blocks all ultra violet light from leaving the fixture. The filter lays on top of the fixture’s diffuser or in tube form to fit over the fluorescent bulbs.

In 1997, after a year-long study, the Arizona State University College of Applied Sciences announced that the Spectrum Filter increases productivity no less than 2.51%.

In 1995, the Michigan State Police Ergonomics team did a double blind study of the filters’ effect in the workplace, and unanimously recommended it to over 6,000 State Offices.

McGlennan Elementary School in Beloit was the first school in the state to install the filters. This three-year-old program continues today.

After interviewing teachers and students in a two-classroom study, one with and the other without filters, several notable differences were observed.

One student, Tylor, was classified with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), and would get a migraine headache everyday by 11:00 a.m. He told his teacher, after the filters were installed, he could now read because, for the first time, the print did not move. Tylor did not get another headache for the rest of the year.

Polarizing the light prevents the brain from detecting the flicker of low frequency lamp ballasts.

Shawn Hudson, principal of McGlennan Elementary, said, “We have less behavior problems with the entire student population in general . . . they are calmer . . . they don’t have as much acting out . . . Lighting and noise are the biggest environmental factors . . . the light filters seemed the simplest, most effective way to alter the students’ environment . . . the teachers think it’s better . . . they think it has improved things.” (The Week, December 1996)

When a person walks into a room with unfiltered fluorescent lighting, the green cast is not normally detected. In 1996, the General Services Administration concluded a two-year investigation on the need for Spectrum Filters. On the GSA order form it says: “When you enter an area with any kind of unnatural light, your eye reads the light, uses a reference to determine the color, and then sends corrected color information to the brain. But, in most offices, it has to keep sending that connecting information all through the work day, resulting in eye strain, fatigue, even headaches. If the color balance is natural and correct, as it is when Spectrum Filters are installed, the eye has an easier, more relaxed day at work. Comfort and productivity are the direct and immediate beneficiaries.”
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1999 State Officers
The AIA Wisconsin Board of Directors, at its August meeting, unanimously approved the nominations of Robert E. Shipley, AIA, Madison, as 1999 Vice President/President-Elect and Allyson D. Nemec, AIA, Milwaukee, as 1999 Secretary/Treasurer.

Shipley and Nemec will join Daniel J. Roarty, AIA, Green Bay, and John G. Horky, AIA, Milwaukee, on the 1999 AIA Wisconsin Executive Committee. Roarty will be the 1999 President of AIA Wisconsin; and Horky will serve as the immediate Past President.

Shipley is a principal of Bowen Williamson Zimmermann, Inc., in Madison. He currently serves as AIA Wisconsin Secretary/Treasurer, having previously served as a Director-At-Large and as an officer of AIA Southwest Wisconsin.

Nemec is a principal of Quorum Architects in Milwaukee. She previously served as an officer of AIA Southeast Wisconsin.

1999 AIA Wisconsin President Roarty is project development architect with DeCoster Construction Company, Inc., in Green Bay. Horky, the 1998 President, is an associate with Kahler Slater in Milwaukee.

Distinguished Service
The AIA Wisconsin Board of Directors has awarded a Citation for Distinguished Service to the profession of architect to Richard R. Johnson, AIA, Stevens Point, and to Mark A. Henrichs, Madison.

Rick Johnson’s Citation will be presented posthumously to his wife Mimi at the Board of Directors meeting in December. It was awarded by the Board in recognition and appreciation of his significant contributions to AIA Wisconsin, the Northwest Chapter, his community and the profession.

The Board of Directors recognized Madison architect Mark Henrichs for his significant contributions to the success of several AIA Wisconsin Conventions through his slide presentation on the state’s rural landscape. Mark Kruser, AIA, Middleton, chair of the 1998 Convention Committee, presented the Citation to Henrichs at the Southwest Chapter’s picnic in July.

Golden Award
The Golden Award is the highest honor that AIA Wisconsin can bestow on a member architect. It is awarded by the Board of Directors in recognition of the architect’s distinguished leadership and service to AIA Wisconsin and the profession of architecture over an extended period of time.

The first AIA Wisconsin Golden Award was presented in 1986. To date, there have been twelve Golden Award recipients.

Golden Award nomination materials are available from the AIA Wisconsin office. The deadline for 1999 Golden Award nominations is November 16, 1998. The Golden Award will be presented at the 1999 AIA Wisconsin Convention on April 21 at Monona Terrace.

AIA/AGC Liaison
The AIA/AGC Liaison Committee is a forum for architects and contractors to discuss and search for common ground on issues of mutual interest and concern.

The co-chairs of the committee are Jerry Schwoch, AIA, Madison, and Dave Voss, Appleton. The liaison committee includes representatives of AIA Wisconsin, the Associated General Contractors of Wisconsin and the Associated General Contractors of Greater Milwaukee. AIA Wisconsin members include: Gerard Capell, AIA, Milwaukee; James Otto, AIA, Milwaukee; Kent Calloway, AIA, Middleton;
Colin Klos, AIA, La Crosse; John Peine, AIA, Milwaukee; and Dan Roarty, AIA, Green Bay.

The discussion at recent liaison committee meetings has focused on the quality of construction documents, sales tax on construction materials for public projects and change orders. Issues identified for discussion at future meetings include: plan purchasing, owner insurance and indemnification, mediation, and arbitration, project delivery methods, project closeout, submittals and bid issues.

If you have issues that you believe should be addressed by the AIA/AGC Liaison Committee, please contact Jerry Schwoch at (608) 276-9200 or one of the committee members from your area of the state.

Planning
Started in 1986, members of the AIA Wisconsin Board of Directors, officers of the four local Chapters and chairs of AIA Wisconsin committees gather annually to participate in a long-range planning retreat.

This year’s planning session, facilitated by 1998 Vice President Dan Roarty, AIA, began with a look back at each of the past three decades to identify key events and trends affecting the profession. These were grouped according to common issues, including technology, environment, economy, politics and society. The following issues and trends were identified as having a particular impact on the profession: aging population, available workforce, lifestyle changes, technology, environment, government regulation, global market and project delivery.

Participants in this year’s planning retreat prioritized these issues and focused on developing action plans in four key issue areas: computer technology & information, environment & global resources, diversity and community service. The short-term and longer-term goals established for these issue areas will help shape AIA Wisconsin programs and services.

Compliance Statements
A local building code official complained to the Department of Regulation and Licensing that architects not infrequently refuse to file compliance statements until their fee has been paid.

In a memorandum to the Architects Section of the Joint Examining Board, staff legal counsel Wayne Austin commented as follows:

“There is nothing in chapter ILHR 50, Code, establishing specific deadlines for filing. The only apparent inducement for filing the compliance statement is that the building may not be occupied until it has been. I would assume that the architect’s withholding of the compliance statement would be a powerful inducement for the owner to pay the fee, but the situation reportedly creates problems for the affected governmental agencies.

“Based on my research, I can’t say that refusal by an architect to sign off on a project until he or she has been paid constitutes unprofessional conduct, and thought perhaps the Section would have some thoughts.”

Energy Code Handbook
“The Commercial Building Energy Conservation/HVAC Code Handbook” is now available for purchase at $10 per copy from the Safety and Buildings Division, Wisconsin Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 2509, Madison, WI 53701-2509; telephone: (608) 267-4405.

The purpose of this Handbook is to explain how to comply with energy conservation and HVAC system code requirements in ILHR Chapter 63 & 64. It is designed to serve as both a training and a reference document. The publication contains three standalone handbooks that include an overview, examples, complete code language (with commentary) and index for the building envelope, lighting and HVAC systems. The cost of the Handbook is $10 per copy.

NCARB Certificate
Architects who do not hold a professional degree that is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) may be eligible for NCARB certification if they meet certain grandfather provisions. It is important to note, however, that the NCARB membership voted in 1996 to discontinue the grandfather provisions on July 1, 2000.

You can request an application for the NCARB Certificate by calling (202) 783-6500, or visiting NCARB’s web site at www.ncarb.org.

IDP Survey
The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards will sponsor a national survey of architectural internship. The purpose of the survey is to assess the effectiveness of the Intern Development Program (IDP) and provide recommendations for improving the internship process.

Employers, registration boards, AIA components, current IDP participants and former IDP participants will be surveyed. For more information about the survey, write Robert Rosenfeld at NCARB, 1735 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006 or via email at robidp@ibm.net.

People & Places
Brian Fischer, AIA, Waukesha, has joined T-3 Group, Ltd., as architectural project manager.

Plunket Raysich Architects announced the Construction Documents Technology certification of Martin P. Choren, AIA, Mequon, Jeffery A. Holzhauer, AIA, Colgate, Ronald Janiuk, AIA, Milwaukee, and Michael J. Schaefer, AIA, Wauwatosa. Abraham Khatchadourian, AIA, Brookfield, has joined the firm as a project manager with its education team. In addition, congratulations to Gunnar Prawitz, AIA, Milwaukee, for recently receiving the prestigious U.S. North Central Region CSI Award of Commendation and this year’s coveted Milwaukee Chapter CSI President’s Award.
J. Mark Kemerling, AIA, Wauwatosa, has joined USG Corporation as a specialty ceiling representative within their interiors division. He can be reached at (414) 443-9150.

Keith J. Schultz, AIA, Milwaukee, has joined Durrant Architects as a project manager.

Joseph L. Powelka, AIA, Sun Prairie, has started his own firm and can be reached at (608) 837-8022.

Congratulations to Gene T. LaMuro, AIA, Fort Atkinson, for his recent Emeritus membership approval.

Daniel R. Ferraro, AIA, Racine, announced the start of his own architectural practice. He can be reached at (414) 681-7550.

David E. Cramer, AIA, Rice Lake, announced his new firm, David E. Cramer, AIA, Architect. He can be reached at (715) 236-3110.

“How can I help my business neighborhood?” was the question posed to Lisa L. Kennedy, AIA, Milwaukee, by The Milwaukee Business Journal. Her answer: Among other things, she spoke of her involvement with AIA and projects such as Habitat for Humanity and the Lego booth at Milwaukee’s Summerfest. Call AIA Wisconsin for opportunities for you to stay involved or get involved, (608) 257-8477.

Market Place
VerHalen, Inc. announced the opening of a new Pella Windowscaping Center at 2604 Todd Dr., Madison.

Membership Action
Please welcome the following members to AIA Wisconsin:

AIA
Richard A. Gilbertsen, AIA, Southwest
Mark H. Jenssen, AIA, Southwest
Eric B. Rhodehamel, AIA, Southeast
Steve J. Sulfer, AIA, Northwest

Associate AIA
Juan A. Florianschitz, Northeast
Todd M. Ketterer, Southeast

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