



## AIA Ohio Valley Region

A Region of the American Institute of Architects

### AIA Ohio Valley Region Directors Annual Report – 2014

**Regional Directors:**

Martha Tarrant, AIA  
[mtarrant@RossTarrant.com](mailto:mtarrant@RossTarrant.com)

Bruce Sekanick, AIA  
[bruce@phillips-sekanick.com](mailto:bruce@phillips-sekanick.com)

**Regional Associate Director:**

Theodore Ferringier  
[theodore.ferringier@gmail.com](mailto:theodore.ferringier@gmail.com)

**AIA Mission Statement:**

“The AIA is the voice of the Architectural Profession and a resource for its members in service to society.”

**AIA Vision:**

*Driving Positive Change Through the Power of Design*

The Ohio Valley Region continues to play an important part of AIA at the national level as the organization undergoes repositioning. With efforts continuing from very preliminary discussions in 2013, the work of the Board has realized significant steps in changes to the organizational structure of the organization over the past nine months. As the Ohio Valley works with others to create a more nimble organization, the following are some of the highlights of this year’s efforts.

#### **Governance**

The AIA Board of Directors worked with our consultants to fine tune our efforts at creating a new governance model. Continuing our efforts at the December 2013 Board meeting, the regional directors worked to develop a two body governance model that will allow the organization to be more strategic in its thinking while at the same time more nimble in its response. The Board size will be reduced to a smaller group of no more than 16 members that will be responsible for working with management and overseeing the fiduciary responsibilities of the organization. A new body, the Strategic Council, will be created that will include regional representation as well as members of the NAC, CACE and AIAS that will focus on the strategic direction of the organization. This entity will be no larger than 60 members.

Presented to the membership at the 2014 AIA National Convention in Chicago, the Bylaws changes, as recommended by the Board, received overwhelming support of the membership. The Board has developed several groups that are working on the rules of the two groups, with the Council Steering Group working to complete their efforts by the end of October. OVR Region Director Martha Tarrant AIA is serving on the Council Steering Group.

The Board has also started efforts to move forward with an updated strategic plan for 2016-2020. While a traditional plan of five years is currently being discussed, the plan may be adjusted to a five year plan to account for the speed of changes currently underway at the institute. OVR Region Director Bruce Sekanick AIA, OAA was recently asked to serve as chair of the Strategic Planning Committee.

### **Member Services**

The Institute has been working for a number of years to address a number of programs and issues that were not aligned with the current efforts or needs of the organization. The Member Resource Services Task Force was formed to address these issues and the committee, at the CACE (Council of Association Component Executives) annual meeting and the September Board Meeting, proposed a new formula for revenue sharing. The proposal received widespread support of CACE and the format was approved unanimously by the Board. The efforts of this committee will move forward to establish a more formal format for the formula with member input into the establishment of minimum component performance criteria. The core criteria is being proposed to ensure that the Institute, through all tiers of the organization, provide a minimum level of service to all members.

The Board also ratified a resolution as proposed at this year's national convention that would allow for the review and potential development of special membership categories, primarily directed at public or institutional employees. Membership fees are paid in varying degree by individual members as well as corporate or institutional entities. This proposal would allow the establishment of slots within each organization to permit more employees to become members under the institution's general membership account. This effort anticipates greater flexibility for institutions in budgeting for membership for employees.

### **ArchiPAC**

ArchiPAC is the organizations federal Political Action Committee and it has been established to allow the organization, and our members, to work with and support both incumbents and candidates for national elections office. The committee is in the second year of the two year election cycle and is continuing its effort to provide support to those individuals who have helped advance our efforts as well as those who have expressed support for issues that are in-line with the needs of AIA members.

The ArchiPAC Steering Committee has been very active in not only fundraising efforts, but also efforts in supporting candidates from across the country. As we get closer to this fall's election, the committee has been stepping up our efforts to provide funding to candidates. The committee has carefully reviewed each candidate funded and has evaluated their voting record as well as the support they can provide on issues important to the AIA. The committee also works hard to balance support across

members of both parties. ArchiPAC fundraising has not been as successful this year as in the past and funds being distributed are very limited. Members who are able to help are asked to consider contributing to this important piece of our advocacy effort.

OVR Director Bruce Sekanick AIA OAA is currently the ArchiPAC Committee Vice-Chair and will be the Committee Chair for 2015. The Ohio Valley currently ranks among the top three regions in support of the ArchiPAC effort and we thank you for your ongoing support.

### **Awards**

The Board has received and reviewed the recommendations of the Awards Task Force and was appreciative of the effort. With planned changes in the Board and the establishment of the new Council, the Board chose to not make any decisions related to significant changes in the awards. It was acknowledged that the awards need to be changed with some eliminated, but many of these issues will be addressed under the recommendations of the new Strategic Council and Board. The following changes were approved by the Board:

- i. Members of the Institute may now make nominations for the Gold Medal and Firm Award, along with any component, or Knowledge Community.
- ii. The home office of a firm nominated for the Firm Award must now be based in the United States.
- iii. The Twenty-Five Year Award was elevated to the top tier of awards.

The region would like to recognize the follow components and members who received national recognition this past year:

- i. Grassroots Awards: Both AIA Indiana and AIA Cincinnati won component awards at Grassroots in March.
- ii. 2014 AIA Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture: Carole Olshavsky FAIA was recognized during the AIA Convention.
- iii. 2014 OVR Fellows: The regions two newest Fellows were recognized at the OVR Reception during the AIA Convention in June. They included:
  1. Timothy Hawk, FAIA, Columbus, OH
  2. Ralph Douglas Parris, FAIA, Columbus, OH

### **AIA National Convention**

The Ohio Valley Region participated in the AIA National Convention in Chicago. Nearly 300 members from across the region participated in convention and region activities, including the region breakfast, caucus and reception. AIA OVR members Chris Tadych AIA participated as a member of the elections Credentials Committee and Eric Pempus AIA was selected as a caucus moderator.

As noted above, the membership approved the recommendation of the board and approved the proposed bylaws changes that reduces the board size while at the same time creating a new Strategic Council. With the creation of the Council Steering Group, the Institute plans on having the Council seated and operating at the December board meeting this year.

For those not in attendance, the election of officers for the national board took place at the convention. The winners are as follows:

1. 2015 First Vice President/2016 President-elect:  
Russell Davidson, FAIA (New York, 2012-13 VP)
  
2. 2015-2016 Vice Presidents:  
William Bates, AIA (Pennsylvania, 2012-14 Regional Director)  
Francis M. Pitts, FAIA (New York, 2011-13 Regional Director)
  
3. 2015-2016 Secretary:  
John Padilla, AIA (Santa Fe, 2011-12 Vice President)

### **AIA Ohio Valley Region**

The OVR Council met on April 25 in Indianapolis at the AIA Indiana offices.

New OVR Director: Three candidates presented their credentials for consideration for selection as the new Ohio Valley Region's Director to the AIA National Board of Directors. The OVR Council selected Drew White, FAIA. Drew is a Principal at Axis Architecture + Interiors in Indianapolis. He brings prior active involvement in AIA over the last 15 years including presidencies of AIA Indianapolis in 2002 and AIA Indiana in 2010 as well as preceding officer positions. He has been involved in various local and state committees of AIA including those for design awards, education, governmental affairs, and regional convention planning. At the national level, Drew has served on the Housing Knowledge Community and was a director of its affordable housing sub-committee. We welcome Drew's involvement and continued service to AIA and the OVR.

Regional Director Martha Tarrant AIA: Martha will finish her term at the end of this year and the region would like to acknowledge the time and energy she has spent with the AIA National Board of Directors over the past three years. Her work as part of the Council Steering Group as well as the Finance and Audit Committee has significantly helped the board reach many of our goals. Her knowledge and experience will be greatly missed and the region wishes her the best as she leaves the board. We thank her for her for the many contributions she has made, and continues to make, for the organization.

OVR Bylaws Task Force: The OVR Council has formed a task force to review OVR Bylaws and operations. The task force will review current bylaws for potential necessary revisions for coordination with the potential passage of revisions to the national bylaws, as well as reviewing current procedures. The task force will include two representatives from each state, the current and new Regional Directors, Regional Associate Director, YAF Director, Fellows representative, and CACE representative.

### **AIA Kentucky Cool Spaces**

AIA Kentucky hosted Stephen Chung AIA, host PBS Cool Spaces! at a great event on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> in Lexington, KY. The first program was previewed and Stephen discussed with attendees his efforts to create the program and answered questions on the programs production. Congratulations to AIA Kentucky on this effort. For more information on Cool Spaces! Visit [www.coolspacestv.com](http://www.coolspacestv.com)

### **Upcoming Dates**

AIA Ohio Convention: September 18-20, 2014 in Kent, Ohio

- a. Convention Theme: "A Future Practice"

AIA Kentucky/Indiana Convention: October 2-4, 2014 in Fort Wayne, Indiana

- b. Convention Theme: "Renewal. Innovation. Engagement"

### **National Associates Committee**

Theodore Ferringer Assoc. AIA OVR Director & Representative

The NAC Committee Elections were held for the 2015 NAC Executive Board. The following were elected:

Joseph Lai - Chair

Schuyler Bartholomay - Director-at-Large

Lucas Gray - Director-at-Large

Ross Miller – Director-at-Large

### **IDP Firm Awards**

Applications are now being accepted for the 2014-2017 IDP Firm Awards program! Is your firm leading the way in support of staff on the path to architectural licensure? Learn more about the awards program at [www.aia.org/IDPFirmAward](http://www.aia.org/IDPFirmAward)

### **IDP Coordinators Conference**

NCARB is changing the name of IDP Coordinators to Architect Licensing Advisors Community in anticipation of other licensure and titling changes.

### **Future Title Task Force**

Intern titling has been the key issue of the NAC in 2014. The Future Title Task Force is studying the ramifications of significant changes to career stage nomenclature. This task force includes representatives from various professional roles and experience levels, including AIA and NAC representation. Haley M. Gipe, Assoc. AIA, who is the current 2014 NAC Director, represents the NAC. The NAC is drafting a committee resolution to pass to the AIA Board for consideration and action, based upon feedback from a series of surveys the NAC helped organize with staff from AIA's Center for EPs.

#### **Licensure at Graduation**

The Licensure Task Force, which is being led by NCARB, is studying the pragmatics of enabling architecture graduates to be licensed upon graduation from accredited, professional degree programs is in the early stages of its formation. An early step is identify schools to participate in a pilot program starting next year.