

Architecture New York State



AIA New York State
An Organization of The American Institute of Architects

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Letter from the President

By Timothy Boyland, AIA

The busy summer months are now upon us as we are halfway through 2015. Our profession is ever changing with new materials and design trends. Similarly, so is the AIA, through the Member Service Realignment Project, AIA Components across the country are discussing the best way to operate efficiently and as a result provide the same high quality of services and programs no matter what part of the country or state you reside in.



Through the touch points of 30,000 members and years of study, AIA has determined 7 areas of operation that will provide this level of service. Realignment will help us better serve our individual components and our individual members. Offering continuing education opportunities where components can partner to see real cost and time savings is important. The process is supposed to be a collaborative process, where standardization of the pieces will help the whole and what will be provided is how we can best serve the membership here in New York State. It is my belief this is in the best interest of our membership, requirements aside. It gives accountability to all of our components, the State component included. Reporting requirements and operational procedures make for governance transparency for all components.

If you have any questions, please contact AIANYS and they will help explain the nuances of the realignment initiative. For a complete synopsis of the realignment, AIA did a video which can be viewed on AIA National's YouTube page.

Thank you,

Timothy Boyland, AIA
AIANYS President

Interview with Paul McDonnell, AIA Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller Award Recipient

Interviewed by Nicholas Isaacs, AIANYS Director of Communications

NI: In your opinion, where is architecture heading?

PMD: Well, that is a broad question. I believe that the user is becoming much more involved in the process of making buildings more "user friendly." Innovation is being driven by the involved user. As the public becomes more technologically sophisticated, they are becoming more highly educated and informed. They WANT to be involved in the process, not just an eventual occupant.

NI: What are the trends you see coming from these informed users?

PMD: The buzz words these days are sustainability, energy efficiency, green design. The public is becoming much more cognizant of these terms and how they relate to their living and working environments. I've been involved in historic preservation my entire career and these contemporary ideas mesh quite well the traditional ideas in preservation. The "greenest" thing you can do is reuse an existing building, save that embodied energy and not waste new resources to always create new. People have visceral feelings toward the built environment. They are conscious of legacy. The details of how a building is built are generally beyond the public's interest, but good, thoughtful design can create a feeling of stability that lasts for generations and I feel it is the architect's responsibility to create that.

NI: How does this translate to what your specialty is, educational institutions?



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AIANYS Midyear Update

This spring has been a busy one so far. We have produced our second annual Excelsior Awards and Advocacy Day on back to back days. In addition, we have had three new staff members join the team since April who have hit the ground running, contributing on many projects.

The Excelsior Awards reception was exceptional. Held at the site of the historic National State Bank Building, the 1901 York and Sawyer design provided a unique venue that was fitting to honor publicly funded projects which stand out, break the mold of traditional and exemplify our profession. The Excelsior Awards also recognize service to the profession through its honor awards. It is a great evening, we would encourage everyone to attend next years' reception, which promises to be just as great.

The following day after the Excelsior Awards, was our Advocacy Day in the Legislature. Our President Tim Boyland, AIA, was invited to be introduced on the Assembly floor, a distinct honor, and our delegation had numerous successful meetings with our elected officials in the NYS Senate and Assembly. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss issues of importance to the practice and the health, safety and welfare of the public. Achieving our Legislative agenda is an important of process as any to architecture in New York State.

As we move into fall, the Design Conference on (October 22-25), will once again be upon us. We'll celebrate the best projects New York's architects have at the Design Awards Reception and look at the future of building products as the tradeshow. There will also be 10 LU's of continuing education available and networking events that will revolve around this year's theme. I hope you are looking forward to it as much as I am and hope to see you there.

Remember to keep informed and in touch by checking AIANYS's Facebook and Twitter. We are here to serve our members in the best possible way, so do not hesitate to contact us or stop by; our door is always open.

Georgi Ann Bailey, CAE,
Executive Director



A Message from Tony Schirripa: Winner of the At-Large Director Election

New York's own Tony Schirripa, FAIA, won the election in Atlanta at the National Convention.

About the win, Tony said, "I am excited by the win in Atlanta and very much appreciate the support I received from NY State and across the country. I also congratulate Jennifer Workman and Jane Frederick on their victories. I am looking forward to serving our members and driving the value proposition of membership in AIA. I am especially looking forward to serving on the Board with my fellow New Yorker's: Russ Davidson and Frank Pitts. There is much to be done and I am honored to be part of the team that will do it!"

Tony and the other At-Large Directors elected, Jennifer Workman, AIA, AIA Dallas/Texas Society of Architects and L. Jane Fredrick, FAIA, AIA South Carolina, will be coming to the Board with a variety of backgrounds and expertise to help the Board in its deliberations. The Board's role is advisory, to help take care of the AIA's business dealings.



Letter from the Editor

AIANYS Members,

We here at AIANYS are always looking for better ways to serve our members. As part of our service to the members, I will be looking for story or article ideas for our publications. I am willing to hear any ideas or help in drafting articles to bring views, facts and opinions to the membership as a whole. If you have any ideas or would like to participate in generating an article for a publication, please do not hesitate to contact me at nisaacs@aianys.org.

I appreciate you all having me as part of the AIANYS family.

Sincerely,

Nick Isaacs
AIANYS Director of Communications

2015

October 22 • 25
AIA NEW YORK STATE
SARATOGA DESIGN
CONFERENCE

SAVE
THE DATE

PMD: Modernizing our learning institutions is of paramount importance – the old cliché; invest in the future. In Buffalo we have rehabilitated dozens of our old schools and have not built any new ones in 30 years. There is an inherent quality in design, structure, materials and history in our existing schools. They have strong bones and tradition that creates a sense of wellbeing within the community because of their history and their legacy. On the same note, I want to make sure the spaces are technologically up to date and flexible for future changes. I think it's important also not to throw out the old for the new. For instance when planning for new interactive whiteboards we didn't remove the old chalk boards, we simply placed the new technology over the traditional. Who knows, interactive whiteboards maybe obsolete in 15 years. Why sacrifice a part of the building for what may be a fleeting technology only to be replaced by something new in the near future... Stay flexible. Old existing with new. Plan for the future.

NI: That is interesting. Old and new combined for our youth.

PMD: It's been like this for ever. Look at the changes from when we were in school 20, 30 or 40 years ago. What has changed? Certainly technology, construction techniques, styles etc., but what has remained constant? The need for schools, the need for classrooms. Technology will change, buildings will change but I honestly think that the classroom where a teacher will lecture, direct, nurture and facilitate learning with a group of students will always be there. That has always been a constant.

NI: You were leading the Joint School Reconstruction Program, a 48 school undertaking with \$1.4 billion invested. That is an undertaking of huge proportions. What was the largest obstacle you faced?

PMD: Well, money of course, but the New York State Education Department was an incredible partner that provided us the funding. The first thing we had to do was to upgrade the infrastructure of the buildings. They were all very sound but suffered from neglect and needed new HVAC systems, new windows and roofs, upgraded finishes, new electrical systems and technology all while respecting their historic fabric. We also had to overcome the perception that our old schools

could not be 21st century learning environments. We needed to create the support spaces that weren't present 100 years ago but are very necessary today, either by reconfiguring existing spaces or by strategic additions. Spaces such as fitness rooms, computer labs, science laboratories, professional office areas, clinics. They all had to be created. These areas are dictated by social necessities and their design needed to be flexible enough so they wouldn't be obsolete 20 years from now.

NI: You obviously have passion for the profession. You have described Buffalo as a hidden architectural gem. From a non-biased Buffalonian, why? What is so special about architecture in Buffalo?

PMD: Buffalo is definitely a gem! In 1900 Buffalo was the 8th largest city in the country. It was a transportation hub with the Erie Canal and the second largest rail center in the United States. With nearby Niagara Falls it had access to what was thought at the time an unlimited amount of electricity. Industry flocked to Buffalo and wealth came with it. This wealth attracted the best architects who created extraordinary and innovative buildings. In fact Buffalo and Chicago are the ONLY two cities which have buildings from the three great American architects: Richardson, Sullivan and Wright.

NI: Very interesting. When are you available for a personal tour?

PMD: Actually, I'm the President and co-founder of The Campaign for Greater Buffalo History, Architecture & Culture; we have an open air bus which can take you around. And, yes, I have personally give tours.

NI: Last question: how has AIANYs helped you achieve what you have?

PMD: I have been part of local chapter leadership and am the Buffalo-Western NY Director. Over the years, I have networked with members from outside Western New York and made professional connections. It's helped me learn from others, interacting with members from other regions, getting ideas and having discussions. It is always nice to have the AIA network to rely on.

For 25 years Paul McDonnell has served the City of Buffalo and the Buffalo Public Schools as an architect working to insure that Buffalo's historic civic buildings are preserved and its new ones are well designed, high quality and enduring for future residents and visitors. A native and lifelong resident of Buffalo, Paul's career has been shaped by the love of his city, its architecture and its history. He has always regarded his position as a public employee to be more than just an occupation but one that serves the community.

He is responsible for the numerous school buildings in the district. His most important role was his involvement with the Joint School Reconstruction Program (JSCB). This ambitious \$1.4 billion project completely renovated 48 schools over a 15 year period.

Paul has volunteered a significant amount of his time and energy as an advocate to preserve Buffalo's architectural legacy. He was a co-founder and current president of the Campaign for Greater Buffalo, History, Architecture and Culture. The Campaign developed the most respected architecture tour program in western New York and in 2007 began offering tours on the "Open Air Autobus"

In 2006, City of Buffalo Common Council President David Fronszyk appointed Paul to serve on the Buffalo Preservation Board, the body responsible for preserving and protecting Buffalo's landmarks and historic districts. Four years later he would be elected chair. As chair he was a leader of the 2010 initiative to add Buffalo's University Park neighborhood to the National Register of Historic Places. This new district is made up of 429 structures, including his 1920 craftsman bungalow. Working as both a resident of the district and Preservation Board Chairperson he helped oversee Buffalo's first new historic district in almost 25 years.

Architecture / Style / Sustainability / Regulation

By Richard Stott, AIA, LEED AP

There has never been a more exciting time or important time for architects. Architecture, stylistically speaking, has a history influenced by the social climate and when we look at the most dramatic changes in style, the modern movement of the early 20th century seems to stand out above all others.

The movement was a reaction to many things, with the industrial revolution at the top of the list. New materials, such as steel, glass and reinforced concrete, allowed architects to design buildings and components which were never possible before. Ornament was replaced with lines and edges and “form follows function” became the motto of designers ready for a change. For the past 80 years, architectural design has taken one of two roads: traditional or modernist. In a social adaptation it became a visceral response, similar to long hair on men and short hair on women.



The industrial revolution was also responsible for more far reaching and complicated issues than style wars. Like automobiles of the era, regardless of style, buildings were evaluated more by the size of their engines, than the efficiency of their systems. Like “muscle cars”, oversizing both heating and cooling systems in buildings became common practice. Fuel was cheap and little to no attention was paid to how much energy was consumed. It simply didn't matter.

As our population grew, so did the standard of living, as the industrial revolution made it possible to fill the built environment with comfortable, air conditioned buildings to live and work in with little regard for the environmental consequences. We thought the earth could absorb the pollutants we were releasing into the atmosphere, but eventually we began to see and feel the results of our fossil fuel abuse. The natural inversion layer in Southern California trapped smog and for the first time, the toxins we produced became visible. As smog became visible, it was also being absorbed by our bodies, resulting in a multitude of illnesses. In addition, we also filled the interior of our buildings with pollutants, in the form of lead and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in paint and stains, and urea-formaldehyde (UF) in carpets and adhesives, and chlorine, asbestos and phthalates in other building components.

At one time we thought the culprit was the abundance of cars on California highways, which eventually led to governmental oversight of the auto industry. Carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, methane, nitrous oxide and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) were measured and identified as major toxins and, as a result, we passed laws requiring low lead gas and catalytic converters, and after implementation, slowly, smog conditions began to improve.

Unfortunately, it took much longer for science and research to discover buildings are an even greater source of pollutants than the automobile. We began to realize our buildings were consuming tremendous amounts of energy; in fact 40% of green house gasses are produced by buildings compared to 14% for transportation. We had to re-think the components we used in buildings as we realize the dangers of lead based paints, asbestos, plasticizers and other toxic chemicals.

Between government regulation, competition, and the race to apply new technologies, our cars have become very intelligent. They tell you when they need a tune-up, tell us when they are too hot or too cold, and when unoccupied, will shut off the lights if you forget. Some electric cars produce no fossil fuel emissions at all, at least not at the source. Finally, our buildings have been catching up. Influenced by sustainability efforts such as the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, construction has entered a new era of awareness. Every aspect of a project is considered for sustainable criteria. We now study and apply green practices to various aspects of the build, such as the site, building orientation, relationship to community services, water usage, landscaping, indoor air quality, sustainable/local materials, , and the energy equipment and distribution. It is now possible for some buildings to produce more energy than they consume, a concept thought impossible just a few years ago.

As a result of the science of sustainability, within a few years, building codes will adjust to regulate structures and their energy systems in a comprehensive way. We may adopt a new code called the International Green Construction Code, which will be the rulebook for architects and engineers. Similar to the auto industry, the government will regulate how we build buildings and regardless of what you think of government regulation, it is clear it will make buildings safer and our planet cleaner, healthier and more sustainable.

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A Practice & Academic Partnership

Saratoga Design Conference and Design Awards Update

AIA New York State will be hosting our second annual Design Conference in Saratoga Springs October 22-25. This year's theme is "Practice / Academic Partnership" where we will explore the growing relationship between the academic and professional communities.

We will also be offering continuing education opportunities where up to 10 available Learning Units will be available as well as various tours showcasing Saratoga's architectural landmarks. Also, we will be hosting various vendors for our trade show and presenting two keynote sessions and multiple networking opportunities.

To register or for more information, please do not hesitate to contact AIANYs at (518) 449-3334.

Design Awards

As part of the weekend, on the evening of October 24th, we will be hosting the Design Awards dinner where firms from around the State will be honored for projects featuring superior design and functionality. Our Jury is hard at work evaluating over 200 entries we have received; an overwhelming turnout.

This year's jury members have arduous task ahead of them with the sheer number of quality projects submitted. Good luck to all those who submitted.

Public Project Delivery Reform in New York State

By Michael Burrige, AIANYs Governmental Relations Coordinator

Last November, AIA New York State (AIANYs) in conjunction with the Bar Association of the City of New York, co-hosted a seminar entitled, "Modernization of New York's Built Environment Laws: If Not Now, When?" The topic was timely, as the governor had just announced his intentions to extend and expand the provisions in the 2011 Infrastructure Investment Act, to provide design-build authority to all state agencies. While the governor may have answered the seminar's titular question of "When?" with the answer "Now", the proposal fell short of true comprehensive reform and was not in agreement with AIA National's position on design-build. Further, the proposal made little to no mention of the role of the licensed design professional outside of stamping construction documents—a significant oversight.

Prior to the governor's announcement, AIANYs created the Project Delivery Taskforce, chaired by past president and tireless advocate for the profession, Burton Roslyn, FAIA. The Governor's announcement accelerated the Taskforce's work and drove the group to produce amendments to the proposal. The amendments focused on: (1) defining the licensed design professional's role and qualifications; (2) ensuring Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) was used to procure design services; (3) requiring the agency to use a design criteria professional for advisement and the creation of a design criteria package; and (4) the inclusion of construction manager-at risk as a project delivery option. The Taskforce presented these changes to the Governor's office during a meeting with one of his Deputy Secretary's last December, with the hope that they would be included in the 2015-16 Executive Budget proposal, set to be unveiled in late-January.

Beyond meeting with the Governor's staff, Burton Roslyn, FAIA, Randy Collins, AIA, Georgi Bailey, AIANYs Executive Director, and Legislative Counsel Kate Herlihy, met with members of the Legislature and submitted testimony during the slew of budget hearings held in February. As the April 1st deadline drew near, it appeared that a rift over project labor agreements and general discontent over the wording of the bill threatened to wipe away design-build authority for the few agencies and authorities that were currently authorized to use it. In the end, the cacophony of voices from various interests killed the expansion, and the Legislature agreed to a straight extender, which the governor accepted. One wrinkle that was added addressed the Legislature's concern regarding transparency and the ability to verify that

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Scholarship Program Announcement

AIA New York State is once again sponsoring the annual Student Award Program commencing this fall. This September, we encourage students' participation in this program which recognizes the future leaders of architecture and active members of our society.

Program details will be available late summer and AIANYs will be actively engaging the schools of architecture to encourage their students to participate in this great program.

For AIANYs members who would like to be involved, please contact Cara Longobardi, Education Programs Manager, at (518) 449-3334 or clongobardi@aianys.org.

Architecture / Style / Sustainability / Regulation, Continued from Page 4

Will this regulation influence architectural style? Maybe. The good news is new high tech, energy efficient and healthy materials are being developed every day which are applicable to all styles of architecture. Solar photo voltaics can now look like traditional shingles but can also be embedded in energy efficient glass panels for the modernists. Sustainable materials are not partisan; modernists will push the limits of modernism and traditionalists will continue with classic design, all with a mandated focus on sustainability.

It is diversity which makes life interesting. Long hair short hair, republican, democrat, modernist, traditionalist – none of those things matter as much as our ability to leave our children with a healthy and hopefully better place to live.

Richard (Ric) Stott came from a construction background as a carpenter and contractor before attending architecture school. After receiving a Master of Architecture Degree, with Honors, from California Polytechnic State University in 1983, he moved back to the East Coast. Mr. Stott established his firm in 1988 and has been involved in hundreds of commercial and residential projects in California, Vermont, Connecticut, Long Island and New York City. His award winning, innovative designs include custom made furniture, built-ins, and architectural features and solar installations. Ric also holds a Bachelor of Science in Sociology, from Dowling College, 1973. He was the founding President of the American Institute of Architects Peconic Chapter, 2006 & 2007, he sat on the New York State AIA Board of Directors, from 2008 to 2012 and continued with AIANYs as Secretary in 2012 and 2013. He is a United States Green Building Council LEED Accredited Professional. He is a member of the National Council of Architectural Review Boards (NCARB), a member of the American Institute of Architects Academy of Architecture for Justice, the United States Green Building Council and the American Solar Energy Society.

Public Project Delivery Reform in New York State, Continued from Page 5

design-build was cheaper and more efficient than design-bid-build. A progress report will need to be filed with the governor and the Legislature by next June which outlines the experiences of each agency authorized to use design-build.

Moving forward, AIANYs plans to introduce a commission bill to study the efficacy of changing New York's built environment laws to allow alternative project delivery for public projects. The ultimate goal of the commission will be to bring the various interests together to develop a piece of legislation that can be acted upon. This strategy was successfully implemented by Massachusetts in 2004. AIANYs looks forward to working with its partners in the design and construction industry to help provide the State with flexibility, and do so without losing the ability to protect the public and quality design.



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