Dear members, friends, and colleagues:

We are in the midst of the coming of age of the AIA International Region, and you are a part of it.

What started as a seed years ago has rooted, sprouted and is strengthening its limbs with each passing month. We have clear goals to benefit our chapters and their assigned members, our many unassigned members, and the Institute as its ambassadors to the global profession. I urge you to look at the AIA-IR Annual Report of the Board of Directors presented at the annual meeting of members in Philadelphia during the 2016 convention: it gives you context on the history of the IR, what we have accomplished in the last year, and our specific near-term goals. Click here to view this now:

http://static1.sqscdn.com/static/1/291369/27049705/1464627040763/annual-mtg_2016-05-17FINALr.compressed.pdf?token=IGNQUfpOQVpYKtKbRVJ%2FJnbRgRU%3D.

As you scan the summer newsletter, take stock of all that is going on in the Region. There are definite signs of improved engagement, most notably the successfully-executed election cycle we just came through. Next up: the 2016 Design Awards, closing in late August, and then the second annual International Region conference occurring this year in Toronto in late October during which the design award winners will be announced.

Meanwhile, hardly a day passes without one or more of our Board members having direct contact with AIA headquarters leadership concerning matters of interest to all AIA members living and practicing abroad—again, as you read through this newsletter, you will see specific examples of what I am referring to.

The more engagement we have from you, the better we can form and execute an agenda. We are a highly dynamic organization, rapidly evolving to assure that we are vital, responsive, and effective. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any question, concern, or idea that you may have. I’ll be listening.

All the best,

James M. Wright, AIA
2016-2017 President
AIA International Region

james.wright@aiainternational.org
Sherif Anis, AIA, Elected 2017–2018 Secretary

At its June 2016 meeting, the AIA-IR Board of Directors declared Sherif Anis, AIA, the successful candidate for the office of Secretary for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2017.

A founding board member of AIA Middle East, Sherif has served in every capacity on the Executive Committee since its inception as the Founding Treasurer (2010), Secretary (2011), Vice President (2012), Past President (2014) and President in 2013 and currently in 2016. While serving concurrent terms as the Director of Communication, he set the graphic identity of the chapter and created and managed all of the communication platforms (mass e-mails, newsletters, website and social media like Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.) Sherif also served as the Director of Fundraising, securing multiple sponsors for the chapter generally as well as for specific events such as the yearly conferences. He has a long history chairing chapter conferences and coordinating other events that benefit AIA-ME members. Regionally, in 2014 Sherif was appointed as the first AIA International Region Zone 1 Director.

Since 2013 Sherif has been working as the Design Director at Gulf Related, Real Estate Developers (a Related Companies joint venture with Gulf Capital) where he has been actively involved in projects in both Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia. Prior to this, after 13 years in CBT Architects’ Boston office, Sherif relocated to the United Arab Emirates to serve as CBT Architects’ Regional Director where his primary responsibility was to establish and register an international branch office, identify growth and business development opportunities and to oversee a large residential mixed use project in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

The IR’s First Attempt at Electronic Voting Deemed a Success; Board to Consider Refinements for 2017

The 2016 election cycle utilized a secure online voting process in addition to various ways to indicate proxies and vote in person at the annual meeting. The Board is very grateful to AIA General Counsel Jay Stephens for his help in implementing and monitoring the electronic vote casting; special thanks as well to Kathy Frazier (in Jay’s office) and Emily Dorey (AIA Director, International & Unstaffed Components) for their tireless efforts in vetting and analyzing the votes.

The 2016 election winner was determined by a plurality of votes cast, as opposed to a simple majority. Prior to the start of the 2017 election cycle when both the First Vice President and the Treasurer offices will be on the ballot, the Board will revisit this policy and discuss possible refinements to the electronic voting process. One such possible refinement is the introduction of a ballot in which first, second, and third preferences may be indicated; this “Alternative Voting Method” is a practical way to avoid run-off elections in obtaining the majority will. Candidates are elected outright if they gain more than half the votes as first preferences; if not, the candidate who lost (the one with least first preferences) is eliminated and their votes move to the second preference marked on the ballot papers. This process continues until one candidate has half of the votes and is elected.
By Dr. Christine E. Bruckner, FAIA  
AIA International Region Immediate Past President

The AIA International Region is honored to welcome TNG (Tianjin North Glass Industrial Technical Co. Ltd.) and Big Ass Solutions to the family of sponsors supporting the Region.

TNG and BAS join our family of AIA-IR Sustaining Founding Sponsors:

AECOM;

American Hardwood Export Council;

Dornbracht; and

Dow Corning.

These sponsors’ generous financial support is critical to the operation and growth of the International Region. We thank all our sponsors and look forward to a long and successful relationship with them.

They, along with the support of our International Chapters, have made it possible to initiate so many immediate benefits so early in our history. We will continue to recognize all of our supporters at coming events.

If you have industry colleagues who might consider some level of sponsorship, we have a new Sponsorship Prospectus for their consideration. For more information, please contact either:

Loay Quota, AIA, AIA-IR Treasurer  
(loay.quota@aiainternational.org) or

Christine Bruckner, FAIA, AIA-IR Immediate Past President  
(christine.bruckner@aiainternational.org).
The IR Celebrates its Two New Fellows and an Honorary Fellow

We proudly announce that Lester Korzilius, FAIA (AIA-UK) and Sean Chiao, FAIA (AIA-HK) were elevated to Fellowship at the 2016 AIA Convention in Philadelphia. Hayder Ali, Hon. FAIA (AIA-IR Unassigned), under the sponsorship of the IR, was one of nine Honorary Fellows.

Lester Korzilius, FAIA, is the current Secretary of the AIA International Region and the Director of Ellis Williams Architects’ London studio. Sean Chiao, FAIA is the President of Asia Pacific at AECOM. Hayder Ali, Hon. FAIA, is the Founder/Principal of Hayder A. Ali Architects & Building Consultants, Khartoum, Sudan.

AIA Fellows are recognized with the AIA’s highest membership honor for their exceptional work and contributions to architecture and society.

Architects who have made significant contributions to the profession and society and who exemplify architectural excellence can become an AIA Fellow. Approximately 3% of the AIA’s 88,000+ members have this distinction.

The deadline for the 2017 Fellowship program is 14 October, 2016, 5:00 p.m. Eastern. The nomination may be made in one of two ways:

1. by an AIA chapter or state organization (in our case, the International Region) bearing the signature of the president or secretary of the component;

2. by petition of individual members or Fellows, it must bear the signatures of any 10 architect members or any 5 Fellows in good standing – it is the responsibility of the sponsor to inform the component of a petition nomination.

For complete information, see http://www.aia.org/practicing/awards/AIAS075320.
There were no formal AIA Strategic Council meetings at the Philadelphia Convention. However, there were many events where I had to participate as the Representative of the International Region. They included: all of the international practice continuing education programs given (Taking Practice Global, Living and Working Abroad, Collecting your Fees Abroad, Going Global in Latin America, US Based Codes and Standards for International Projects, and the Commerce Department’s programs) and the International Practice Committee Advisory Group (IPCAG) half-day, pre-convention session, AIA Architects Abroad: An International Practice Workshop. Other meetings included the AIA Partnership meeting, International President Forum and luncheon, and a filmed interview on marketing internationally that will be shown by the AIAU later this year.

The President’s Forum was very interesting and gave me a chance to get well acquainted with the Japanese, Korean, Thailand, ARCASIA, Mexican, and Costa Rica representatives.

The program on Latin America was also a great success and gave me the opportunity to meet representatives again from Mexico and Costa Rica and others from Virgin Islands, Peru, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, where I advised them all to look at the AIA Middle East development and in the past AIA Continental Europe where the Chapter is actually a combination of countries. For example, an AIA-Latin America chapter could be all of the Caribbean Islands and Latin America, Central America, and Mexico; and an AIA South America chapter would consist of all countries on the South American continent.

At the convention, the Strategic Council had a “Wall” in the Town Square on which comments were collected, and had two discussion events every day. I am on the Outreach Committee and we had a lively discussion Saturday afternoon for several hours.

There were also side meetings with AIA Board members and senior staff on new rules for the development of new chapters and a new, more inclusive and professional nomenclature and perhaps CES credits to be developed for our International Region members.

Left: Lester and Heather Korzilius with Steven and Pamela Miller at the 2016 Convention Fellows Reception and Dinner

About the AIA Strategic Council

The Strategic Council will have no more than 60 members; the largest contingent will be composed of regional representatives who will represent their geographic areas proportionally. The AIA Board will determine the manner of selecting Council representatives for students, CACE, and Associates, and will have discretion to decide the length and structure of their terms.

“The Strategic Council will give us new ways to confront the future of the profession proactively, not reactively,” said AIA EVP/Chief Executive Officer Robert Ivy, FAIA. “It will look forward to investigate emerging issues in business, practice, and design that our members will be asking about in the months and years ahead. Cooperatively with the Board of Directors, it will promote a relevant strategic plan for our present and future needs.”
By Lester Korzilius, FAIA, RIBA  
AIA-IR Secretary, 2015-16

The issue of how best to serve our unassigned members has been one of the key considerations of the AIA IR Board. Our unassigned members are literally around the globe and this poses unique challenges in delivering the benefits of AIA membership. The two key issues are (typically) relatively small numbers of AIA members in one particular area, and a large geographic spread of the unassigned members generally.

With regard to the first issue, the relatively small numbers of AIA members in an area precludes the formation of a ‘typical’ chapter (as is done in the mainland US) as there isn’t sufficient critical mass. This then requires a different approach. In the case of the Continental Europe and Middle East chapters, many of their members are geographically disparate, but they are brought together in a federated approach. Their location within a sub-region allows members there to meet once or twice per year, and provides smaller local events. The administrative infrastructure (CES, sponsorship, component standards, etc.) is managed by the overall chapter.

The second issue of a large geographic spread has the obvious implications of making regular physical face-to-face contact difficult and/or prohibitively expensive.

Taking the above factors into consideration, we are trying several programs as follows.

The annual conference of the International Region is an opportunity for IR members to assemble, network, and participate in professional programs together. This year’s conference will be in Toronto in recognition that nearly half the IR’s unassigned members reside in Canada. Future years will see the conference move to different parts of the world to allow participation by other unassigned members.

We are working to create a ‘conference within a conference’ at the AIA National convention. This mini-conference would be internationally focussed and would cover a range of topics.

The IR Board recognises that travel costs are expensive, and that while conventions and conferences such as the above are extremely useful, they cost more than many members are willing/able to spend regularly on such events.

We have created an AIA International Region Facebook page, based on a number of comments in a recent survey. It is still early days with this endeavour, and it is hoped that this proves successful in linking members in a more relaxed, but still professional forum.

The IR chapter created a number of committees that deal with sponsorship, design awards, annual conference, unassigned members, and communications, and we are looking to engage IR members (both assigned and unassigned) to participate in these. A number of people have indicated interest in assisting the IR in the recent survey, and we will be making contact with all of these people.

We will be trialling the use of webinars. In the first instance we will try an organise webinars in the areas of unassigned membership where there are several AIA members, such as Korea, India, and China. Other webinars might be done by established chapters on issues in their regions, and further webinars might be put together by geographically remote members. We are investing now in the IT infrastructure (Citrix) to support this initiative.

We welcome further suggestions and volunteers!
AIA International Region 2015 Design Award Winners Honored at the 2016 AIA Convention

By Dr. Christine Bruckner, FAIA

The AIA-IR 2015 Design Awards were celebrated at the 2016 AIA Convention International Reception in Philadelphia the evening of May 19, 2016. Award recipients were recognized, and photos were taken with AIA President Russ Davidson, FAIA, and other representatives of the Institute leadership and the international practice community. A full exhibition of the 2015 winning projects was presented and both the 2014 and 2015 design award booklets were presented and shared with over three hundred reception attendees.

The International Region 2015 Design Awards Program—the second of such programs—continued the IR’s initiative to recognize and promote excellence in design and planning. Submissions were received from members in all three zones of the AIA-IR with representation from all IR chapters and the unassigned members community. The Jurors met in Kyoto at the Inaugural AIA International Region Conference on September 12, 2015 and selected the Award recipients. A gala dinner awards presentation was held in Hong Kong on November 12th.

Gain Fame with the 2016 Design Awards Program!

Year 3: The AIA-IR continues to support and recognize design excellence.

We welcome submissions from all of our members practicing and living globally. The IR encourages all to submit their work and take advantage of this high caliber, exclusive membership benefit and opportunity to share ideas, receive international recognition, and exhibit design work around the world.

Start preparing now: submissions are due on-line August 22, 2016

Adjudication will take place in Toronto at the AIA-IR 2016 International Conference. Award winners will be announced and recognized live at the Conference Gala dinner the evening of October 22, 2016. Exhibition of award recipients will follow in the historic Octagon Building at AIA Headquarters in Washington, DC, during the AIA 2017 Grassroots conference on March 8-10, 2017. Many hundreds of representatives from AIA chapters world-wide will have the opportunity to view the awards exhibit during the Grassroots reception.

The submission process is easy, flexible, inexpensive, and on-line here: https://www.conferenceabstracts.com/cfp2/login.asp?EventKey=IOUVGJBI. You and/or your firm cannot win and gain attention if you do not enter!
Excellence in Design Awards 2016

The AIA-UK Chapter hosted its Excellence in Design Awards Gala 2016 on April 18th at the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) in London. The impressive elegance of the Nash & Brand Rooms provided a warm and welcoming reception to the guests who arrived from different parts of the world to celebrate creativity, design and architecture.

The AIA-UK sets an open awards platform in order to minimise restrictions and provide more opportunities for architects and designers to submit their projects. This year the AIA-UK set 3 categories (Student, Young Architect and Professional) to balance the competition so younger architectural practices do not compete with larger, long-established firms.

The jury’s review process involved a full day of long, ardent debate over the anonymous submissions, clearly indicating the high quality of the submissions received, and confirming evidence that the UK is a leading centre for innovation and design. As an outcome, the jury decided to award three commendations for the Professional category.

Frederick Grier, President of the AIA-UK, paid tribute to the late Dame Zaha Hadid, sharing the highlights of her involvement with the AIA-UK Chapter from inception both as a juror and as an award winner, in addition to her involvement in other AIA-UK events.

The members of the jury included: Armstrong Yakubu, Charlotte Skene Catling, Michel Mossessian, Alex Lifschutz, Amy Frearson, Frederick Grier, and Adrian Evans. In the evening, the jury was represented by Amy Frearson who announced the winners by elaborating on the jury comments for each winning project.

The 2016 AIA-UK Excellence in Design winners:

Noel Hill Student Travel Award
Tonderai Prince Maboreke - Ravensbourne University
Southbank Pavilion
(image 1, right)

Young Architect
Merrett Houmøller Architects - Analogue Boathouse
(image 2, right, © Alan Williams)

Professional Commendation
John McAslan + Partners - Sacred Heart Cathedral of Kericho
(image 3, right, © Edmund Sumner, Sumner Partnership Ltd.)

Professional Commendation
Allies and Morrison - Rambert
(image 4, right, © Allies & Morrison)

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Excellence in Design Awards 2016

Professional Commendation
Duggan Morris Architects – Richmond Adult Community College
(image 1, right, © Mark Hadden)

Professional Award Winner
Zaha Hadid Architects – Messner Mountain Museum
(image 2, right, © Werner Huthmacher)

The 2016 AIA UK Jury:

Armstrong Yakubu - Foster & Partners
Charlotte Skene Catling - Skene Catling de la Pena
Michel Mossessian – Mossessian Architecture
Alex Lifschutz - Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands
Amy Fearson - Dezeen
Frederick Grier - UHA London – AIA UK President
Adrian Evans - Huddersfield University

Building Tour: Alphabeta Building

The 2016 Building Tours kicked-off with an exploration of Studio RHE’s Alphabeta Building in Finsbury Square. The building was alive with the creative activity the architects had envisioned. Coincidently four separate events were under way in various parts of the building during our visit.

Dickon Hayward (project architect for the project at Studio RHE) led the tour, beginning in the building’s vibrant and transparent central atrium. The architect pushed the developer client (Resolution Property) to change their initial thinking about the project. Rather than gutting and rebuilding the entire interior structure to a standard office module, the architects envisioned a lighter touch which could make use of the building’s existing quirks to create office space with a unique character.

Working with the existing structures created several challenges. The architects chose to leave ceilings exposed to maximise height where the existing structures had low floor to floor heights. Additional steel structure was added around the perimeter of the atrium to create more floor space and to form the delicately cantilevered projecting volumes with full-height glazing to maximise light and visual connectivity between the spaces.

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Building Tour: Alphabeta Building

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A unique approach to programming was taken at ground level. The financial benefit of the building’s signature cycle ramp – suggested by the architect – had to be considered carefully by the developer, as it used prime street frontage. The developer also took a gamble by using the majority of the basement to house a co-working space open to all visitors. The building has been a financial success – fully-let months before opening, while other new buildings in the area still sit with vacancy. The developer and architect are taking many lessons from Alphabeta to future projects.

The tour concluded with drinks at Flight Club – a popular new pub in the building featuring darts!

Building Tour: Crossrail Place, Canary Wharf

The tour was led by Jonathan Rabagliati of Foster + Partners who worked on the project for over eight years since its inception. Foster + Partners were asked by Canary Wharf Group to create something different from the steel and glass buildings which define Canary Wharf. The architects developed the project around a park – elevated over the dock and partially sheltered from the harsh surroundings. The use of heavy timber and ETFE inflatable cushions for the roof structure brings a sense of nature and lightness to the park.

Jonathan explained how the arched ends of the roof structure reference the nearby Canary Wharf tube station also by Foster + Partners which features two similarly shaped canopies (of glass) and a park on top. The form of the new roof structure was originally designed with a more expressive shape, but was simplified through value engineering during the 2008 world financial crisis.

Parametric modelling was essential to the design and fabrication of the complex roof structure, even with the simplified form. Scripting was used to document and validate the thousands of unique steel nodes which were fabricated through an automated welding process. The laminated timber members were fabricated using a scanning technique to ensure structural and visual consistency through each member. ETFE cushions and aluminium copings were detailed to protect the timber structure from exposure to UV and moisture.

Housed beneath the roof are three levels of retail and restaurants, and four levels of train station below grade. Several architects worked on different areas of the project including Adamson Associates on retail, and Tony Meadows Associates on the below ground station which is under construction, and is due to open in 2018.

The tour concluded with drinks (and dinner for some) beneath the arched roof at the Big Easy.
Upcoming Events

21 July 2016

Building Tour: Rambert by Allies and Morrison
99 Upper Ground, London SE1

22 October 2016

Annual Student Charrette
Roca London Gallery
Station Court, London SW6

01 November 2016

AIA UK / RIBA Keynote Lecture: Thomas Phifer of Thomas Phifer and Partners
The Royal Institute of British Architects
66 Portland Place, London W1B

04 to 06 November 2016

City Excursion: Lille, France

Please refer to www.aiauk.org for up-to-date information on upcoming AIA UK events.
By Tannar Whitney, AIA  
AIA-IR Zone I Director

Board Meeting Highlights

At our Board Meeting in January, we set some ambitious goals, and we have made progress on many fronts. Most significant in the Chapter’s operations has been a transition on our web platform. For years we have been pampered by the tireless support of Richard Anderson— who was Chair of Publishing and Records. Richard announced his “retirement” from these services and we inaugurated a new website in the past few months. First Vice President Tiffany Melancon has spearheaded and coordinated this effort and our new site, although still “evolving” is up and running.

New Programs

In 2015, two new programs were initiated by the Chapter— namely the AIA Europe Design Awards and the AIA Europe Scholarship. The Chapter is committed to the continuation of both programs, with the Design Awards being offered every other year, thereby having the next program launched in 2017. We have announced, on the new website this year’s Student Scholarship Program, with submissions due on 8 July 2016.

2016 Conferences

In April, we had a memorable conference in Barcelona organized by Sophia Gruzdys. The four day event was a complete indulgence in architecture, urban development and local cuisine. It will be remembered as one of our more notable events.

In the Fall, at the end of September, we are hosting a conference in Girne, Cyprus. The event, entitled “Communicating Across Cultures” will be both a perspective on historic architecture as well as a conference hosting a student competition. Students from around Europe are convening to participate in a 4 day charrette—competition which will transpire during the course of the actual conference. Registration for the conference will be available on the AIA Europe website by mid-July.
Update from Hong Kong

By Peter Basmajian, AIA (AIA-IR Zone 2 Immediate Past Director)

The AIA Hong Kong Chapter focus for 2016 is our Young Architects Initiative. To advance this cause, the Chapter is providing platforms for emerging architects to showcase their designs and projects, and encouraging them to push boundaries and speak their minds.

Headlines

ABOVE: Prof. Li Xiaodong spoke on Reflexive Regionalism, his vernacular, award-winning design methodology, on May 23rd

ABOVE: Emerge! 2016 AIA/HK Young Architects Forum, April 15th, the first in our series of initiatives for young architects

ABOVE: More than 150 people joined the discussion at CUHK on February 18th for Thom Mayne’s Kinoshita Lecture in Architecture

ABOVE: Prof. Li Xiaodong spoke on Reflexive Regionalism, his vernacular, award-winning design methodology, on May 23rd

...continued next page
Ken Hau, AIA

AIA Hong Kong President’s Message

Dear Members & Friends:

The 2016 AIA Convention with the theme **Imagination** took place in Philadelphia in mid May, and was attended by a large delegation from Hong Kong.

Among a wide variety of other topics, social justice and new technologies were discussed by Rem Koolhaas and Neri Oxman, the two keynote speakers. Koolhaas’s dialogue with Moshen Mostafavi on architecture, politics and social justice was insightful, while Ms. Oxman, from MIT’s media lab, presented equally stimulating research on digital design interacting with biology. The highlight of the Convention was the appearance of Denise Scott Brown, co-recipient of the 2016 AIA Gold Medal with Robert Venturi. Ms. Brown took the stage to explain her long struggle to success and received a standing ovation – a well deserved and long overdue recognition of her tremendous professional achievement.

In Philadelphia we also celebrated the elevation to Fellowship of AIA Hong Kong Member **Sean Chiao, FAIA**, and discussed future collaboration opportunities with many great friends and colleagues from around the globe.

...continued next page
Building tours, seminars and other events (continued)

ABOVE: Experts convened at the Advanced Technology Lecture Series – Technology and Material on April 21st

Teresa Norton discussed presentation techniques at STARMAKER, March 17th

ABOVE: Dani Sustainable Leather Presentation, April 28th, at the Excelsior Hotel

AIA Hong Kong President’s Message (continued)

In July, the Chapter will present two very exciting programs:

On Thursday the 7th, we will hold our Second Quarterly Meeting featuring Kris Yao, Hon. FAIA, the award-winning architect from Taiwan. Mr. Yao will present a lecture titled *Tang Ao: Tangible & Intangible*, a discourse on his pursuit of architectural design and artistic conception.

One week later on Thursday the 14th, the second event in the AIA Hong Kong Advanced Technology Series will be held – featuring speakers on Zaha Hadid Architects’ City of Dreams Hotel Tower in Macau. Presenters from ZHA London, Buro Happold and Front Inc. will give three perspectives: that of the architects, the engineers and the facade production consultant and discuss the challenges they faced in the design of one of the world’s most complex buildings and facade systems.

Don’t miss out on either of these exciting events!

ABOVE: Experts convened at the Advanced Technology Lecture Series – Technology and Material on April 21st

...continued next page
Building tours, seminars and other events (continued)

Coming up

July 7
Kris Yao, Hon. FAIA, Presentation

July
Technology & Production

July
M Moser Evening Cocktail

Aug 12
AIA Hong Kong 2016 Honors & Awards Submission Deadline

Aug
Antony Wood, CTBUH – Global Tall Buildings

Aug
Tung Lin Kok Yuen Heritage Building Tour

Sept 8
2016 AIA Hong Kong Awards Jurors

Sept
Technology & Design

Sept
AHEC event with Tony Chi and Criswell Davis

Oct 11-17
2016 AIA Hong Kong Honors & Awards Exhibition & Ceremony (Save the Date)

Dec 1
Awards Presentation & Annual Dinner (Save the Date)
And finally…

As we approach the 20th anniversary of the Chapter’s founding, in 2017, we are increasing our efforts to build a stronger community within the industry while demonstrating the expertise and leadership of Chapter members. To this end, AIA Hong Kong has launched a video interview series of past Chapter Presidents, AIA Fellows and other industry leaders, taping ten individuals in the first round of two-minute clips, which will be made available on the Chapter website and through other social media.

We are seeing growing Asia Zone use of the ARE, which has been available in Hong Kong since late 2014. It has proven highly successful and generated a renewed buzz amongst younger professionals who now have easy access to the testing facility and a relatively simple way of completing their licensure process. The Chapter holds regular ARE study sessions and an IDP mentoring program for young architects in Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific Region.

The Chapter was also delighted to have a large delegation attend the 2016 AIA Convention in Philadelphia where we celebrated the elevation to Fellowship of AIA Hong Kong Member Sean Chiao, FAIA, and discussed future collaboration opportunities with many great friends and colleagues from around the globe.

Please let us know if you will be coming through Hong Kong so we can welcome you to our upcoming events – and remember to save the dates, October 11th and December 1st, for our Annual Design Awards Exhibition / Ceremony and Dinner.
By George Kunihiro, FAIA
AIA-IR Zone 2 Director

AIA Japan (AIAJ) will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary of founding of the Chapter in September.

AIAJ began its activities back in 2006. In 2011, AIAJ, then a member of the Northwest Pacific Region, hosted their Regional Conference. In September 2015, AIAJ again hosted a Regional Conference, this time for the International Region. And this September, the chapter will host the 10th Anniversary Event at the Shibaura House, designed by Kazuyo SEJIMA, followed by a Tokyo Bay Cruise. AIAJ hopes to welcome several AIA dignitaries from State-side.

On a separate note, AIAJ will host a student travel program for the fourth consecutive year. The chapter will recruit students from the Japanese universities and organize a tour of Seattle and Portland arranging for students to experience internship at several architectural firms in the Northwest Region. As a result of this travel program, the alumni of the program came together to begin organizing AIA Japan Student group, which, they hope, will evolve into a chapter of the AIAS in the near future. For a chapter which has not seen much growth in the membership, such movement within the chapter is a welcome activity.
AIA-ME Monthly Lecture Series

The AIA Middle East conducts continuing education lectures and talks on a monthly basis throughout the region. These are typically attended by 25-40 of our members and have become increasingly strong in terms of content and approval from our members. One such example was the recent lecture “Scenario 2018”. We were honored to have Mr. Oliver Baxter present Herman Miller’s (3) near-future scenarios that are changing the way we work today.

As part of their scenario planning process, they invite a group of employees and external experts with diverse backgrounds to a two-day symposium. There, they identify driving forces and critical uncertainties that determine how the future might play out. Based on those, they develop a wide range of scenario themes that they narrow down to a few we feel are most compelling for our work.

Their most recent effort, completed in 2013, resulted in three plausible futures for 2018—Data Sphere, New Normal, and Polarized World.

Data Sphere
Big data management and hyper-connectivity are central to almost every human enterprise in 2018. Organizations around the world, informed by easily accessed data and connected by smartphones, are bypassing both corporate and government gridlock to achieve goals.

New Normal
Continuing slow-growth economy has become a new normal, and people around the world have lost faith in politics, government, and most traditional institutions. Linked by networks, individuals are taking matters into their own hands and demanding transparency when it comes to corporate values and practices, interest group agendas, and nonprofit decisions. Verified transparency has become a competitive edge.

Polarized World
World economic power and cultural leadership have polarized into two centers—the United States and China. Governed by a growing cooperation between the two countries, the world economy has stabilized. Cultural exchanges between emerging markets like India and Brazil and more established markets in Europe and the U.S. are increasing, facilitated by younger people and ever more accessible technology.

Thank you to Mr. Oliver Baxter and our members in attendance.
AIA Middle East launches in Kuwait!

Due to the large geographic territory that the AIA Middle East covers, we have created delegates in several countries, called Country Representatives (CRs), who are responsible for being the local point of contact for our members there, conducting CEU and social events to find new members and generally serving as an extension of the Chapter.

We now have CRs in 7 countries: Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and now Kuwait, in addition to the UAE where the AIA ME is headquartered. Once a country such as Kuwait is showing a significant number of members to be served, we will identify a CR there and have a launch event. The Launch Event will be open to the public and will simply announce the AIA ME on the scene. We will be careful to coordinate this with other organizations, authorities and industry partners so as to build strong relationships moving forward.

The most recent Launch Event was in Kuwait and was extremely well received. The Ambassador of the United States in Kuwait, Douglas Silliman, endorsed and attended the event along with James Wright, AIA International President, and AIA ME President, Sherif Anis. An overview of the AIA and the AIA Middle East was given by Sherif followed by a Q&A session over hors d’oeuvre. Guests were from all different spheres of the architecture and engineering community in Kuwait.

Below, left-to-right:

U.S. Ambassador Douglas Silliman; AIA-ME President Sherif, Anis, AIA; AIA-IR President James Wright, AIA; AIA-ME Kuwait Country Representative Fajer Al Hendi; Catherine Silliman; AIA-ME Bahrain Country Representative Ali Lari
An English translation of the article is as follows:

Under the patronage of His Excellency the Ambassador of the United States in Kuwait Douglas Silliman, his wife and a number of senior public figures and professionals from the field of architecture and engineering, a ceremony was held to launch the American Institute of Architects Middle East Chapter (AIA ME) in Kuwait, effectively extending its representation and support for its members within the MENA region.

Fajer Al Hendi, the AIA ME Kuwait representative, stated that this step is a positive step for the continuous development of the architecture profession and related disciplines in Kuwait, integrating Kuwait further into the International architectural community, global design discourse and products.

Kuwait’s architectural development and urban planning has been marked by several stages as the country moved from its old town structure to become a part of a contemporary architectural context. Fajer further stated that we host the AIA ME in Kuwait to further develop our architectural community and to collaborate with all the professional combinations of architects, architectural engineers, engineers, educational facilities, designers and professional developers.

AIA, American Institute of Architects, was founded in 1857 in New York City to develop the architecture and create a better built environment. AIA has more than 83,000 members around the world and the Middle East chapter is the largest outside the US, which was established in 2010 in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

The AIA ME Kuwait Launch Event was attended by the following AIA International leadership:
Sherif Anis, AIA ME President
James Wright, AIA International President
Ali Lari, Bahrain Country Representative
An English translation of the article is as follows:

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The AIA Middle East Annual Conference & Design Awards is coming... November 17-19, 2016 in Cairo, Egypt!

Please join us in Cairo, Egypt for the AIA Middle East’s signature event of the year: 2016 Annual Conference & Design Awards. Learn, discuss and network as guest presenters, industry experts and your peers convene to share their perspectives on the state of the Architecture profession in the Middle East, the trends we are seeing and what the future may hold. Beyond the lectures and round table discussions we have incredible tours planned, a gala dinner cruise along the Nile and the AIA ME Design Awards all as part of this unparalleled 3-day conference. Please come enjoy the amazing city of Cairo, Egypt with us. Our website will soon reflect the preliminary agenda. We hope that you can join us...
News from the AIA Shanghai Chapter

We are off to a good start for 2016. As 2015 was a walking year, 2016 is getting off to a faster start and a bit of a run in our step.

AIA Shanghai is legal!

First and most importantly, AIA Shanghai has received its WOFE (Wholly Owned Foreign Enterprise) registration, which means our Chapter is fully legal in China. This is an important milestone, as we are one of the first “for profit” chapters of AIA and in China it is not legal to operate as a “non profit” so it was critical that we obtain this legal representation in China. Many thanks to all that participated in this multi year marathon event...and particularly our thanks to AIA in Washington for being our legal sponsor and for the District of Columbia Center for putting our submissions together and dealing with the complexities of working with the government in Shanghai for obtaining this important legal status.

Updating Chapter Leadership

During the first quarter of this year we have expanded our leadership team and have introduced a new and enthusiastic group of committee chairs that will hopefully serve as the future leadership of our chapter. We have a great mix of individuals from overseas and local architects who call Shanghai their home and hopefully it will serve as a firm foundation for our future growth and sustainable leadership.

Membership

We have also grown in size to approximately 72 members and we continue to add a few new members every month. As the news of our AIA chapter in Shanghai continues to become more open and public we hope that we can add additional members. We are finding that there is tremendous interest in our AIA chapter from young local professionals who seek to learn more about the buildings and practices of Foreign practices. We see the importance of our local growth and stability to be inclusive of local architects from member firms as well as the design institutes located in the city. We believe that this is the future lifeblood of our chapter.

AIA Convention in Philadelphia

Several members of our Executive Committee and several chapter members attended the AIA convention in Philadelphia. Attendees included Greg Yager, AIA – President; Chris Chan, AIA – Vice President; Silas Chiow, AIA – Treasurer, and Arturo Veve, AIA – Member of the Shanghai AIA program committee.
As for events......

EEB Lab and Chapter Kick-off presentation

We had a quarterly spring meeting that was hosted by Arcadis (CallisonRTKL). The main purpose was to introduce the Energy Efficient Building Lab; the EEB is a partnership of the Shanghai Green Building Partnership and the WBCSD. Joan Zhou presented the Energy Efficient Building Lab and its purpose to promote the design and construction of energy efficient buildings in Shanghai and China. We also used this opportunity to talk about the future vision of our chapter and share these thoughts with the members. China is entering into a more stable period and we hope that this will serve as a time of growth in knowledge, membership and participation by our members. We had approximately 55 people attend our quarterly meeting and we would have had more if had not been for the exceptionally heavy rainstorm that hit the city several hours before the meeting. But it is the Plum Rain season in Shanghai, so it is part of our lifestyle in this important city.

Sinar Mas Center and Magnolia Tower Tour

On June 28th, our chapter conducted a visit and building tour to the Sinar Mas Center/ Magnolia Tower, designed and sponsored by SOM. We had approximately 42 attendees (15 members and 27 guests). The Sinar Mas Center is an important project located in the North Bund redevelopment area of Shanghai. While it is nearing completion, the Sinar Mas project is already a landmark of the North Bund area of the city, that was master planned in 1999/2000.

We have a number of events planned for the remainder of the second and third quarter including a project tour of the Giant Headquarters Building in Shanghai by Morphosis as well as "kicking off" a 20X20 Pecha-Kucha style networking events to encourage more idea sharing and network building among our professional community in Shanghai. The first program is scheduled for July, 2016.

If you are planning on travelling to Shanghai in the near future, please let us know as we would like to introduce you to one of our events.
AIA International Region – Unassigned Members, Results of 2016 Survey “AIA IR Taking the Pulse”

By Dr. Adam Pantelimon, AIA-IR Director (Unassigned Members)

Dear colleagues,

From our 2,400 AIA International Region members living and working worldwide, over 1,200 IR members not within the geographic realms of the six current IR chapters are “unassigned members”. We are the largest group of AIA members within the International Region, but because of our diverse locations around the world, we have the least opportunity of any group of members to meet and interact. As AIA’s IR seeks resources to continue to improve, support and engage its members, consequently, a survey was created on March 2016 that sought membership feedback on the AIA International Region – Unassigned Members. The survey had two aims:

1. To gain practical input on what you want to hear more of and how we can best deliver that information to you;
2. To benchmark professional fellowship, sharing of information and continuing education metrics in order to measure effectiveness over time.

I would like to thank you for taking time to respond to our 2016 survey “AIA IR Taking the Pulse”. 80 people answered the survey. The 7 per cent response rate was excellent and shows that our members are passionate about AIA IR’s success. The membership survey results have provided us with detailed information regarding your opinions about our overall satisfaction, professional fellowship, and relationships, how we go about our work and where we are headed. Your feedback comes at a time when we are in a stimulating business environment and presents concrete views from you about how we can work together to realise our vision of AIA IR’s mission for the future.

This top line report highlights the main results of the members’ survey and the key areas to focus on. Please read on the answers of the central questions to find out the results of the survey. Thank you for your support, and your support of both the Region and the AIA.

Q1: What is your AIA membership designation/honor? Please select one.
Q2: How long have you been an AIA member? Please select one.

[Diagram showing percentage of members in different time periods: 1.25% less than 6 months, 26.25% 1 year to less than 3 years, 13.75% 3 years to less than 5 years, 58.75% 5 years or more.]

Q3: The American Institute of Architects is composed of component organizations (chapters) across U.S. and around the world. These components may be of assistance to individuals seeking information about architects in specific areas. AIA International Region is depicted in three zones: Zone I – AIA Europe/Middle East, Zone II – AIA Asia Pacific, and Zone III – AIA The Americas. Which zone you belong to? Please select one.

[Diagram showing percentage of members in different zones: 3.75% Zone I, 58.75% Zone II, 37.50% Zone III.]

Q5: How long have you worked in the Architecture/Construction/Planning field? Please select one.

[Diagram showing distribution of years worked: 27% under 5 years, 11% 5 to 10 years, 10% 11 to 15 years, 42% 16 to 20 years, 0% over 20 years.]
AIA International Region – Unassigned Members, Results of 2016 Survey “AIA IR Taking the Pulse”

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Q6: Please tell us in which type of firm/company you are currently employed. Please choose all that apply.

![Image showing the results of the survey on firm/company types.]

Q7: Professional fellowship, sharing of information and continuing education are key priorities for AIA IR. How long have you used AIA products/services/networks? Please select one.

![Image showing the results of the survey on the duration of AIA product/service/network usage.]

Q8: No matter where you live, where you practice, or where you are in your career, your AIA membership connects you to top-quality education, sharing of information, and a community deeply engaged in promoting the value of professional fellowship. Which of the following resources/networks have you currently used/engaged? Please choose all that apply.

![Image showing the results of the survey on AIA resources/networks usage.]

Q9: Within your member Benefits, AIA members get exclusive discounts on the products and services you use most. Which of the following products/services do you currently use and how important are these to you? Please choose all that apply.

Q11: Please rate the importance to you of the following benefits associated with belonging to the International Region. Please respond to the entire following prompt.

The respondents who answered this question stated that the following benefits are associated with belonging to the International Region:

- A joint event between an AIA international Component with a local event: 67.22%
- Assistance with professional registration and reciprocity: 63.94%
- Fostering closer relationship with other international professional institutes: 63.94%
- Participation in AIA IR Conferences with regionally pertinent issues: 60.66%

Q12: Please rate the importance to you of “The Way You Want to Engage and Connect” with architects and allied professionals locally and internationally. Please respond to all of the following prompt.

The respondents who answered this question indicated the way to engage and connect with architects and allied professionals locally and internationally:

- E-Newsletter: 54.09%
- Component/Chapter Events: 54.09%
- International Members Groups/Communities/committees: 50.82%
- Local Members Groups: 47.54%
- AIA National Convention: 36.06%
- LinkedIn/Facebook: 34.42%
AIA International Region – Unassigned Members, Results of 2016 Survey “AIA IR Taking the Pulse”

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Q13: Are you willing to participate and contribute to an International Practice booklet specifically to your Zone?

![Bar chart showing percentage]

Q20: Would you be happy for us to re-contact you regarding follow-up research that we may undertake after our initial analysis of the survey results?

![Bar chart showing percentage]

Q21: Thinking specifically about your own situation, how can we improve the communication between members within AIA International Region? Please select only two. If "Other", please explain briefly.

![Bar chart showing percentage]
AIA International Region – Unassigned Members, Results of 2016 Survey “AIA IR Taking the Pulse”

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Thank you to everyone who provided their feedback on our Unassigned Members “AIA IR Taking the Pulse” Survey earlier this year.

Next steps:

It is important to recognise that this is a journey - not a “quick fix” - and together we will not lose sight of the critical ports of call.

From here we plan to:

- Identify wins that will have an immediate impact;
- Develop an action plan on the key issues that we need to improve on in the medium to longer term;
- Follow through and communicate functional and team results to you.

Where possible, the results and your suggestions have already started to be applied. This includes:

- Streamlining our consultation guidelines to help us better engage with you;
- Providing you with ongoing updates on projects / upgrades that are of interest to you;
- Promoting e-newsletters;
- Providing a wider range of stories, including various updates;
- Continuing to utilise and improve our social media content;
- Reviewing our website to see what improvements can be made.

The results will also feed into other strategic documents, including a Communications and Engagement Framework. One of the goals of the Board of the International Region is assisting in the development of Chapters. Accordingly to this survey, there appears to be interest in Canada in developing a Canadian AIA IR Chapter, as well as in several Asia Pacific countries.

Our aim is to run an Unassigned Members “AIA IR Taking the Pulse” Survey every second year, as it will help us index what improvements are working and what areas need attention. The next Survey is due to run at the end of 2018.

The Board and I remain absolutely committed to following through on these issues as they are fundamental to improving the way we work together and reaching our aim of AIA IR’s mission.

Thanks again for your feedback, and your support of both the Region and the AIA.

Dr. Adam Pantelimon, RIBA, MRAIC, MCIP
REGISTRATION SITE OPENS SOON!

Join your fellow IR members for a long weekend discussing our profession’s increasing global relevance as effective problem solvers.

Camaraderie, continuing education, and much, much more!
AIA 2016 FIRM OF THE YEAR ADDED TO THE PROGRAM!

Mark Reddington, FAIA, a partner in LMN Architects, will address the second annual IR conference. The Seattle-based firm, known for its civic projects, is the 53rd recipient of the Institute’s highest honor for an architecture firm.
As the 19th region of the American Institute of Architects, the International Region exists to directly support more than 2,400 AIA members and affiliated associate members living and working outside of the USA—and to develop a globally supportive network for the 88,000+ member strong Institute.

The AIA International Region is the broadest geographical region of the American Institute of Architects, providing a collaborative leadership platform to empower members and encourage global success through best practice, innovative thinking and design excellence.