The First International Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

AIA-UK

NEWS
Michael Lischer elected chapter President

NEWS
Chapter Presidents attend Grassroots

NEWS
London/UK has booth at MIPIM

NEWS
Practice in Paris?

Number 10  February 1996

Above: Left, Michael Lischer, new President with David Walker, past President
Right: Left to right: Bruce Gornick, Hiko Takeda, Peter Ellis, new Vice President and Mrs. Ellis

New Officers Elected at AGM

The chapter unanimously elected a new Board of Directors at its AGM on 23 January at the Royal Automobile Club, London. Michael Lischer became President, Peter Ellis and Candace Sheelely, Vice Presidents, Gary Gordon, Secretary, and Karen Cook, Treasurer.

The new Directors are David Walker, immediate past President, Chris Colbourne, Jonathan Dinnewell, Noel Hill, Lorraine King, John Onken, Stephan Reinke, Stephen Yakeley, and Lawrence Kim. Kim, a graduate student at the AA, will represent the interests of students. Judy Nyquist remains as Chapter Executive.

Michael Lischer is Director of the Sports Facilities Group of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum and Vice President of the HOK organisation. He graduated from the architecture school of Kansas University in 1979 and has worked for HOK for 12 years. Since his arrival in the UK in 1989, Michael has worked on the Sheffield Arena, National Indoor Arena for Sport in Birmingham, and the National Cycling Centre in Manchester.

Peter Ellis is a Partner of Skidmore Owings and Merrill and a Design Director in the London office. He received his architectural degree from Cornell University in 1971. His European projects done since moving to London in 1989 include the masterplan for the Potsdam city centre, the Morgan Stanley Headquarters and the Brompton Cross Development in London.

Candace Sheelely is Vice President of RTKL and the Studio Director of RTKL-UK. Before London, Candace worked in Dallas for RTKL for 12 years. Her projects from the London office include the Centro Oberhausen, Dusseldorf, Braehead Park in Glasgow, and the Trocadero in London.

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Chapter Presidents Meet Hill Tax Staffs

Michael Lischer, David Walker and Stephan Reinke went to Capitol Hill to put chapter concerns before Denise Greenlaw Ramonas, General Counsel to the Chairman, Peter Domenici, of the House Budget Committee, and Brigitta Gulya, Tax Counsel to the Senate Finance Committee. They were concerned that the Clinton administration proposes to abolish the tax provision which allows US citizens working abroad to exclude the first $70,000 of income from federal tax.

US architectural offices then would find it much harder to maintain staffs large enough to attract work or generate profits from non-US offices.

Lischer observed that it would have a knock-on effect on US business, because US architects frequently specify US products.

Ramonas and Gulya assured the Chapter delegation the Republicans oppose the measure, and that it is unlikely to pass. This is the second consecutive Congress in which the measure has been considered.

Whom to Call for What

The AIA Library has put together a nifty "subject list" with names and phone numbers to help you find national and affiliated organisations and programs. It's updated in January and July. Call 202-626-7494 for a copy.

European Region Grows the Fastest

The European region of the AIA, i.e. the London/UK and the European chapters, ranked first in membership growth in 1995. It grew by 25 percent, with Nevada (22 percent) in second place and Utah (13 percent) in third.

ARCUK Reformed

The long awaited proposals to reform the Architects’ Registration Council of United Kingdom were published 2 February, incorporated in the Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Bill.

Key provisions are the reduction of the Council from 72 to 15 members, the abolition of ARCUK’s Board of Education and the Admissions Committee and the formation of a Discipline Committee composed of members of the public and lawyers.

The new Council is to be composed of seven architects and eight persons nominated by the Secretary of State. The Council’s education function will now be reduced to keeping a list of architectural qualifications acceptable to qualify applicants for inclusion on ARCUK’s Register of Architects.

It is hoped that, once ARCUK is restructured, they will be able to consider resuming reciprocal recognition of American and British architectural qualifications.

UK at Grass Roots

The London/UK Chapter was acknowledged for its representation by its first three Chapter Presidents - Michael Lischer, David Walker and Stephan Reinke - at the AIA Grassroots Conference in Washington, DC. More than 600 chapter officers from all 303 components attended the leadership workshop.

Owen Luder, current President of RIBA, and Dr. Alexander Reid, Director General of RIBA, also attended the conference to observe how it was run and to meet with their counterparts.

Terry McDermott, Chief Executive Officer of the AIA, gave a "State of the AIA" address, and said he intends to streamline the national organisation, restructure membership procedures, reduce dues, and begin a US advertising campaign aimed at potential clients.

FEATURE

U Md. Architecture Students Study in North Yorkshire

David Fogle, Director of the Historic Preservation program of the University of Maryland School of Architecture has been bringing his students to Kiplin Hall, a Grade 1 house museum in the Yorkshire Dales, for the past 12 years. The architecture school has been running a hands-on restoration course under the supervision of consulting architect Martin Stancliffe. The students live at Kiplin for five weeks and spend one week in London as a required part of a two-year graduate program. They are enrolled in one of several joint degree programs in architecture, horticulture, history or geography. Non-degree students may enroll also for the UK course and earn a certificate in preservation.

Architecture students visit several sites, write papers on selected architects and the history and restoration of specific properties, and prepare an independent conjunctural project detailing a proposed restoration. Visiting UK lecturers have included Roderick Gradage and the local planning officers.

At Kiplin, students have searched for physical evidence of earlier development and found a croquet lawn designed by W. Eden Nesfield where they had expected to find a tennis court. They prepared measured drawings of the property and restored two derelict rooms on the top floor of the main house.

Further plans for Kiplin Hall have been shelved by Fogle until the future use of the property is settled. The University’s lease is nearly over, and it may need to relocate the program.
Your Booth at MIPIM

The London/UK Chapter and the Continental Europe Chapter will sponsor a booth at the 1996 MIPIM Convention. This is the annual meeting of real estate developers and construction professionals held in Cannes from 14-17 March 1996. It is a unique opportunity for you to introduce yourself or your firm to users of architectural and related services.

The chapters’ participation was made possible by the national AIA.

Chapter members should submit material in standardised folders for display at the booth. Folders will have a left hand pocket for brochures and a right hand flap to hold an A4 bound booklet. Your name or logo must fit within a 10 cm square on the cover. Participating individuals and firms can have a maximum of two folders. 250 business cards can also be included.

Members of the chapter will staff the booth and give interested visitors a directory of participants tabbed with the business card of the firm that sparked their interest. This directory will publish only the names of participants, listing one name per firm. Names and data of visitors to the stand will be mailed to all members of the Chapter after the conference ends.

Large firms will be charged £45 and small firms and individuals will pay £20 per folder. A second folder costs £45.

Those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity should return their registration form and cheque by Friday, 2 March 1996 to AIA London/UK, Areen House, 282 King Street, London W6 0SJ. For further information, contact Stephan Reinke, tel. 0181-748-8088 or fax 0171-748-3475.

Above: AIA London/UK and Continental Europe stand at MIPIM
Right: Chapter Presidents on Capitol Hill, left to right: David Walker, Past President, Denise Greenlaw Ramonas, House Budget Committee, Michael Lischer, President, Stephan Reinke, Founding President

How to Practice in Paris

The International Markets and Practice interest group of the AIA urges all chapter members to attend its conference in Paris on the 25th-28th of April. This is the PIA - the Professional Interest Area - to which most UK members of AIA belong.

The conference will consider the effect produced on architecture by the World Trade Organisation, the EEC, the Architects’ Council of Europe and international trade agreements. Seminars will focus on marketing and practice, covering general characteristics of building regulations, common forms of doing business in Europe, and European methods of risk management and insurance.

The conference opens with a reception at the U.S. Ambassador’s Residence hosted by the Hon. Pamela Harriman.

Guided tours of the modern Metro, the American Centre by Frank Gehry, Canal + Headquarters by Richard Meier, the Parc Andre Citroen, and the medieval Louvre are offered. Guests are welcome to attend the tours and social events.

Participants may attend just the weekend activities, and are strongly encouraged to join the Saturday dinner with the European chapter. Contact Stephan Reinke, 0171-748-8088.

UIFA to Meet in Hungary

Restoration of Architectural Patrimony is the theme of the September meeting the International Union of Women Architects. Those interested in attending the conference or participating in the exhibition should contact the UIFA at 14 Rue Dumont d’Urville, Paris 75116.
EVENTS


AIAUK would like to hear from you. Please post or fax comments, suggestions and opinions to: AIAUK, 33 Hollywood Road, London SW10 9HT, or fax 0171-352-5594.

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AGM cont.

Committees Seeking Members

If you are interested in becoming more active in the Chapter, please contact one of the following committee chairs.

Communications: Justine Kingham, tel. 0171-376-8763, fax 0171-352-5594.

Education: Peter Ellis, tel. 0171-930-9108.


Membership: Lorraine King, tel. and fax 0171-828-5860.


Programmes: Stephan Reinke, tel. 0181-748-8088, fax 0181-748-3475.

Public Policy: Daniel Smith, tel. 0171-488-3340, fax 0171-488-0140.

RIBA Liaison: Noel Hill, tel. and fax 0171-435-2462.

Gary Gordon is an Associate with RTKL-UK Ltd with whom he has worked for ten years. He came to London five years ago as a founding member of the UK office. During his stay here, he has been Project Architect for the renovation and extension of the Amstel Hotel in Amsterdam, as well as the Centro Oberhausen and the Sheraton Amman Hotel in Jordan.

In his review of the past year's activities, outgoing President David Walker highlighted the increase in membership and the corporate sponsorship of Otis Elevators, CallPrint, Steelcase, Salomon Brothers, Acer, Ben Barrett Brickwork, Crowthers and Marshall Clay Products. The meeting concluded with a reception and a viewing of "Legal Hard Hat," a video on antitrust violations which architects could inadvertently commit.