Grassroots 2020 is an exclusive event for leaders of the AIA. This year’s agenda emphasizes component and community leadership with workshops designed to help component officers become more effective chapters and civic leaders.

**Tuesday, February 18**
Various kick-off workshops and tours as shown below were provided and followed by a welcome reception at River City Venues. Also, AIA Japan members conducted individual / team building group tour and dinner in New Orleans.

a. 8:00 - 17:30 Grassroots registration
b. 9:00 - 12:00 Workshop 1: Bias Interrupters
c. 10:00 - 12:00 Workshop 2: Becoming the Leader You Want to Follow
d. 13:00 - 15:15 Walking Tour 1: French Quarter
e. 13:00 - 15:15 Walking Tour 2: Three Squares, Three Cultures
f. 13:30 - 16:00 Bus/Walking Tour 3: The Albert & Tina Small Center for Collaborative Design
g. 18:00 - 19:00 Welcome Reception at River City Venues
9:00 - 11:30 Private Tour: Segene Park, AIA
Walking around the French Quarter area

12:20 - 17:00 IR walking tour by Scott Gold, AIA, International Vice-President
Walking around Garden District
IR team-building dinner after Welcome Reception

Wednesday, February 19

After networking breakfast, the opening session on “Urban Resilience and Equity” featuring three mayors (shown in the photos below) as keynote speakers, was held. Three members of AIAJ participated in multiple sessions and activities as shown in the list below. Note that many sessions were designed to raise awareness on climate change because AIA issued their statement “where we stand: climate action” in 2019. In the afternoon, members from international chapters assembled for the IR meeting. Participants of this meeting are; Japan (Segene Park, Tetsuya Yaguchi, Scott Gold), Continental Europe (Bard Rama), United Kingdom (Katharine Storr), Singapore (Yew Kee Cheong), Canada (Adam Pantelimon, Olimpia Pantelimon), Middle Eastern (Ali Lari), Shanghai (Gregory Yager, Silas Chiow). Team building dinner followed at Red Fish Grill.
a. 7:15 - 8:15 Welcome breakfast  
b. 8:30 - 10:30 Opening Session, Mayors Panel  
c. 11:00 - 12:30 Sharing your Climate Story, Panel 1 Energy  
d. 11:00 - 12:30 Sharing your Climate Story, Panel 2 Energy  
e. 11:00 - 12:30 Sharing your Climate Story, Panel 3 Equitable Communities  
f. 11:00 - 12:30 Sharing your Climate Story, Panel 4 Equitable Communities  
g. 11:00 - 12:30 Sharing your Climate Story, Panel 5 Economy  
h. 11:00 - 12:30 Sharing your Climate Story, Panel 6 Economy  
i. 12:45 - 14:00 Networking lunch / Panel  
j. 14:15 - 15:30 Session A1: The AIA Strategic Plan: Integrating Environmental Stewardship  
k. 14:15 - 15:30 Session A2: Engaging With Mayors  
m. 14:15 - 15:30 Session A4: Leading Through Influence  
n. 14:15 - 15:30 Session A5: Speak Like a Pro  
o. 14:15 - 15:30 Session A6: Know Before You Go: Preparing for the AIA Annual Meeting  
p. 14:15 - 15:30 Session A7: The AIA Continuing Education Services Program & Understanding HSW  

h. **15:45 - 17:00 Regional Meetings**

Followings are summary notes of IR Meeting

1. Coordination and Knowledge Share across the IR: The IR wants to increase the coordination and knowledge share between IR chapters. How might this be better implemented?  
2. IR Chapter Events – Webcast / Video Recordings: IR wants to try and record (and ideally live webcast) IR Chapter events. Alex Miller (from the UK and former IR board member) will take on the task setting up a Vimeo account for the IR so that IR members can virtually attend or view these events. We are working on getting these set up for CES credit.  
3. Volunteers for IR/ Chapter Initiatives: IR needs volunteer support from our Chapters. Volunteers are needed for various initiatives, e.g., newsletter, continuing education, young architect awards, etc. Also, see if there is something that is of interest to a chapter that they would like to make an IR issue, and bring it in under the IR umbrella.
4. IR Design Awards: Remind chapter leadership of the IR design awards, and that we’ll give them two free entries for winners they select from their awards programs.

5. Chapter Engagement: How to best get Chapters to become more actively engaged with IR and push elements in which they are interested.
Thursday, February 20

On the last day of the session, sessions were tailored towards chapter management and organizational skills. The conference was concluded by the keynote speech by Michael Cornett, a former Mayor of Oklahoma City. The followings are a list of the sessions and activities on Thursday.

a. 7:30 - 9:00 Networking breakfast
b. 9:15 - 10:30 Session B1: Local Advocacy & Legislative Days at City Hall
c. 9:15 - 10:30 Session B2: Embracing Our Differences
d. 9:15 - 10:30 Session B3: Making Difficult People Disappear
e. 9:15 - 10:30 Session B4: Speak Like a Pro
f. 9:15 - 10:30 Session B5: And the Winne Is …
g. 9:15 - 10:30 Session B6: Taking Root Sustainability & Resilience Resources for Components
h. 9:15 - 10:30 Session B7: Succession
i. 10:30 - 11:45 Session C1: The Design & Construction Outlook & its Implications
j. 10:30 - 11:45 Session C2: And the Winner Is…
k. 10:30 - 11:45 Session C3: Embracing Our Differences
l. 10:30 - 11:45 Session C4: Capital Campaigns & Investment Resources
m. 10:30 - 11:45 Session C5: How the AIA Trust Can Help You & Your Members
n. 10:30 - 11:45 Session C6: Race & Gender in the Architecture Profession
o. 10:30 - 11:45 Session C7: Making Difficult People Disappear
p. 12:00 - 14:00 Closing General Session & Lunch
q. 19:00 - 20:30 Optional reception

2. Overview of session and workshop attended by members of AIA Japan

a. Segene Park, AIA (Vice-President)

14:15 - 15:30 Session A7: The AIA Continuing Education Services Program & Understanding HSW Requirements

- 2020 LU 18 / HSW 12
- License Requirements by jurisdictions (Illinois require sexual harassment, Texas require Disability, Accessibility, Building code, Ethics, etc.)

Options
- Building tour (factory, hospital, bus tour, healthcare, net 0, etc.)
- Presentation & case studies
- Challenges, how to overcome.
- AIA group viewing facilitate discussion
- Honors & awards project (learn from that work, what made winning, lessons)
- Building code (address state and local issues, sexual harassment, etc.)

Revenue source
- Many providers charge free, but someone is paying (the manufacturer gets the email address, and they pay to AIA)
- AIA course 25 dollars for members 40 dollars for none members (if contents are compelling, people pays)
- If you charge, higher percentage attendees
- AIA National can team up with local chapter and share revenues

Approval process
- Pressure from NCARB, National Boards, and Jurisdictions
- Four pieces of information (Public Health Safety and Welfare)
  1. Title: make it concise and descriptive (15 words too long, 2 words too short, must catch eyes).
  2. Course description: should answer the question and has to have compelling reasons (why would I want to take this course?)
  3. Later this year, AIA will be relaunching full catalog as part of CE-board (all the titles and descriptions can be seen).
  4. Added new field HSW justification optional field (to show how to address HSW, do not repeat objectives and description, opportunities to talk with reviewer)
  5. The reviewer reviews 35,000 cases per year.
  6. HSW is not for the architect or clients' interest (ex, building code, shouldn’t say this is about building code, should say at the conclusion of this course the participant will be able to apply 2020 version of chapter 6 of building code to new construction. Far more detailed, construction measure)
  7. What is in ARE, set up by NCARB
  8. Program management and other five categories are in HSW. However, the categories have to relate to Public Health Safety and Welfare.
  9. Max. 14 weeks process, course can be postponed, can put pending approval
  10. Approved course last 3 years. After 3 years, has to resubmit based on new requirements.

b. Tetsuya Yaguchi, AIA (Secretary)
   TY attended the following sessions.
   2/19 (Wed)  8:30 - 10:30 Opening Session, Mayors Panel
   2/19 (Wed)  11:00 - 12:30 Sharing your Climate Story, Panel 3 Equitable Communities
   2/19 (Wed)  14:15 - 15:30 Session A1: The AIA Strategic Plan: Integrating Environmental Stewardship
All Wednesday sessions were related to the AIA2030 commitment. It was a very clear message that AIA is taking action towards climate change, and local chapters are expected to align with this commitment. At the opening, President-Elec, Peter Exley, stressed the role of architects in the age of climate change, and three Mayors share their first-hand experiences of disaster recovery/prevention. The following three bullet-points are take-aways from Wednesday.

- GHG emissions from building industries are about 40% and mitigating GHG sources in cities/regions is architect responsibility.
- Adapting and preparing future impacts will transform our practices.
- As a chapter leader, we are responsible for encouraging all architects to make this shift.

Through Wednesday session, we share many stories of natural disaster and emergencies caused by climate change and learned the tools, such as disaster assistance handbook, for architects that AIA have been developing on the Website.

On Thursday, multiple sessions are focusing on essential leadership skills that can help us in leadership positions. In session C2 (And the winner is…), speakers shared their experience on reaching out to younger generations, communities, and related professionals. The lesson learned from them are 1) events/efforts for the out-reach can be relatively small budget, 2) does not have to be labor-intensive, 3) should be adjusted over the years. For example, AIA orange county hosts a small design competition for the community college and successfully bridges the local school and practices through the AIA network.

As a closing keynote speaker, the former Mayor of Oklahoma City, Michael Cornett, gave an impressive presentation on how he transformed the auto-oriented city into ped-friendly one during his term and inspired AIA leaders.