



AIA New England Region

June 2013 Report

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1 Mentoring

Outreach

AIANE is also focusing on mentoring and outreach to emerging professionals. We started a formal program around 10 years ago, but it seemed to stall. Some chapters in New England have surplus interested emerging professionals, and few Fellows, while others have enthusiastic Fellow volunteers, with few students, interns, or YAF. The local Fellows are still looking for ways to connect to other existing programs.

Emerging Professionals Network (EPNet)

In Boston the BSA Emerging Professionals Network has become the dominant group for young architects. It is a social and professional network geared specifically toward recent graduates, IDP participants, and young architects, in YAF or not. They have begun to sponsor a large number of events and workshops, and there is discussion of a more formal connection between EPNet and the COF.

Leadership Lunches

This year the BSA President Mike Davis FAIA has instituted "Leadership Lunches" as a new mentoring initiative. Growing out of a successful series of "Speed Mentoring" session at BSA|Space and at ABX, it is an effort to get mentoring out into the firms. Using "The Architects' Group" (TAG – 22 of the larger local Boston firms) as a base, a dozen firms have agreed to host 6 monthly lunches for 4-6 young people from EPNet to come to their office. Many of the senior people involved are Fellows, but it is not specifically a COF activity. It began in April with approximately 40 students and a dozen firms.

2 Fellows Recruitment

Nomination Support

BSA's Honors and Awards Committee is tasked with identifying and nominating potential Fellows. Additional nominations are sought through the component Boards and peer suggestions.

Demystifying Fellowship

As do many chapters, Boston has an annual meeting of the nominees for Fellowship, to explain the submission process and the general approach of the jury. BSA's Managing Director Ann Fienman is the staff liaison for the Honors & Awards Committee, who make nominations for Fellowship. We specifically invite all the new and pending chapter nominees, and also advertise it in our on-line newsletter "Currents" to draw potential peer nominees. Boston sends the notice to the other New England chapters, to share with their members.

At the lunch session, Ann uses the slideshow/info from AIA Honors and Awards (Kathy Daileida and Elizabeth Henry are our contacts) We also usually have two or three recently elevated Fellows and/or sponsors as panelists to talk about their experiences with the application process, and offer practical tips. AIA Connecticut offers their Fellows review committee to our AIANE members as well.

Submission Support

After nomination, the BSA has created a committee to link experienced Fellows with new nominees, for advice independent of their Sponsors. Once the nominee and their sponsor have begun to draft their materials, the nominee meets one or more times to advise and encourage the applicant.

3 Community Leadership

BSA Fellows Committee

We have a designated BSA Fellows committee, headed by Tony Tappe, FAIA. His committee includes Chuck Redmon, FAIA, Sho-Ping Chin, FAIA, Hubert Murray, FAIA, and Jane Weinzapfel, FAIA. Their main activity is the planning for the annual Fellows Dinner.

Fellows Drawings

They have formed an Archives sub-committee, which is investigating a repository for original drawings by BSA Fellows and their firms.

Annual Fellows Dinner

This year the dinner was on Thursday, May 2, at the Tavern Club in downtown Boston. The speaker was William Pedersen FAIA of Kohn Pedersen Fox, New York. He was recruited for the dinner by Michael Gebhart, FAIA, who was a classmate at the University of Minnesota. As a result, we were also visited by Craig Rafferty of Minneapolis and Marvin Malecha up from UNC, along with the other Bostonians with a Ralph Rapson background. This year we celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the annual dinner – the oldest in the AIA to our knowledge. The COF Representative reported on the College at the dinner, to a crowd of nearly 70 Fellows.

4 Other Activities, Resources, and Topics

Boston Architecture Family Tree

The BSA Fellows held an interactive event and reception at BSA|Space on May 29th, during which attendees were asked to contribute their knowledge to capture the history of Boston's architecture community. A long list of firms and their spin-off firms was created, tracing many of our significant architects through their careers. The data is now being cataloged by the BSA.

Podcasts

The BSA is working with the newly formed Boston branch of CultureNOW (begun in AIANY) to record podcasts of Massachusetts-area Fellows. Four interns from the GSD at Harvard will work at the BSA|Space on the project. This effort was begun by the YAF, and podcasts will be available on the BSA Web site and through the CultureNOW app.