

AIA New England

AIA Strategic Council Regional Representative Update: February 2, 2016

Rich Connell, AIA, Class of 2018

I. Since Last AIA New England Board Meeting

A. The AIA Board of Directors and Strategic Council participated in Governance Week at the AIA Headquarters on December 1-5, 2015. This included the following events:

1. Strategic Council Orientation: As a member of the new Strategic Council Class of 2018 (serving from 2016 through 2018), I participated in an orientation session during which the Strategic Council, the roles and responsibilities of a Council member, opportunities to participate, the AIA's new Strategic Plan, and other aspects of the role were explained. This was presented by members of the Class of 2017, with whom I participated with during conference call sessions as my term started early and I was initially assigned to this Class. As indicated in the AIA Bylaws:

a. The Strategic Council shall advance the profession of architecture by informing the Board and other Institute bodies of important professional issues and opportunities. It shall have the following authority and responsibilities:

- Identify issues and opportunities for Institute consideration;
- Disseminate information and insight to constituencies about the Institute's priorities and activities;
- Ensure that its composition reflects and represents the geographic and demographic diversity of the profession;
- Elect at-large Directors to the Board of Directors;
- Commission a rigorous, regular process to survey the profession, identify opportunities and threats, and inform the goals, objectives and strategies of the Institute in order to help with the Institute's planning process;
- Develop and recommend public policy positions on behalf of the Institute for consideration and potential approval by the Board;
- Engage in strategic planning for the Institute;
- Review the Institute's operating plan and budget, and provide its endorsement and/or recommendations for the Board's consideration;
- Engage in leadership development; and

- Subject to Board approval, propose such committees, ad hoc workgroups and task forces as it deems appropriate to advance its purpose.

b. There can be up to 60 members.

2. Joint Board and Strategic Council Meeting: A combined session to hear presentations on behalf of the finalists for the AIA Gold Medal and Firm of the Year, followed by voting.
3. Strategic Council Assembly: Presentations and interactive sessions by each of the 2015 Study Groups: 1) Awards, 2) Business Model Innovation, 3) Culture, 4) Diversity and 5) Relevance.

II. Upcoming Activities

- A. Grassroots Leadership Conference (February 23-25, 2016) and Strategic Council Assembly (February 25-27, 2016); Detroit
 1. Debate on the current conference format.
- B. 2016 Study Groups : These will be the same as in 2015: Awards, Business Model Innovation, Culture, Diversity and Relevance.
- C. 2016 Convention (May 19-21, 2016); Philadelphia
 1. Call for Submission of Resolutions: Due by Friday, March 4, 2016.
- D. Advocacy Conference (July 13-15, 2016); Washington

III. Other Items

- A. This is the current roster (as of 1/28/2016) of candidates for AIA national office:

2017-2018 Secretary

Julia A. Donoho, Esq., AIA, LEED AP (AIA Redwood Empire)
Burton L. Roslyn, FAIA Emeritus (AIA New York)
Bruce W. Sekanick, AIA (AIA Eastern Ohio)

2017-2019 At Large Directors (one will be elected)

Peter J. Exley, FAIA (AIA Chicago)

2017 First Vice President/2018 President-elect

Brian P. Dougherty, FAIA (AIA Orange County)
Carl Elefante, FAIA (AIA Potomac Valley)
Ellis L. "Lanny" McIntosh, AIA (AIA Eastern Oklahoma)

AIA members interested in standing for election to any of these offices must declare their intent and satisfy other requirements by 5:00 p.m. (EDT), Friday, March 18, 2016.

- B. Facebook Posting: Notice the Board and Strategic Council from Jay Stevens, AIA Senior Vice President and General Counsel, which I thought was of interest:

“We have learned that the attached Facebook posting has been the subject of attention among some architects. I will remind you that the subject of free services was central to our 1990 antitrust consent decree with the U.S. Department of Justice. Among other things, the AIA agreed not to do anything that might be seen as prohibiting or restraining AIA members from ‘providing free services,’ or suggesting that such conduct was unethical, unprofessional, or contrary to any policy of the AIA or any of its components. Although the consent decree has terminated, the underlying considerations remain very much alive in federal antitrust law and are cited in the AIA Code of Ethics. We can assure you that the posting is in no way sponsored or supported by the AIA. In order to ensure that we clearly maintain our distance from the posting, we ask that you not participate in any way in the online discussion surrounding it.”

