First Annual AIA Tri-States 3D Design Conference and Expo

Ryan Kennedy and I took the opportunity to attend the inaugural Tri-States Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey in September. It was sponsored by the New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania Chapters of the AIA. As a regional conference, it offered a very diverse and profession array of programs. New York AIA took the lead in presenting the program and should be given some well-earned kudos. The Keynote Address was given by Richard Meier, who managed to fit the last 20 years of his career into 30 minutes of brief, albeit beautiful, slides.

Atlantic City itself remains a city in transition, with much of the focus still internalized to the casinos, hotels and conference centers. There is simply little to do outside the casinos. In all fairness, the venue may have been a convenient and safe starting-off point for the planners of the conference, which intends to make itself a reoccurring annual or bi-annual event. Let’s look forward to their hosting the next conference in a city with an inviting urban context, history and architectural diversity.

Scott J. Compton, AIA NCARB, LEED AP

AIA EPC Board Elections

As the year winds down, it is time to nominate a slate of candidates for this year’s election. We have several openings on the Board to be filled for 2012:

**Secretary** - A two-year position leading toward President-Elect and President. Meeting with the AIA EPC Board during their regular monthly meetings.

**Young Architect’s Forum Representatives** – There are two positions opening for architects within their first 10 years. Meeting with the AIA EPC Board during their regular monthly meetings.

**State Director** – A three-year commitment representing AIA Eastern Pennsylvania on the State Organization Board with meetings in Harrisburg at AIA PA.

If you would like to serve the Chapter’s Membership, please contact Scott Compton at SJC@entecheng.com or Ryan Kennedy at RKennedy@architecturalStudio.com.
Citizen Architects

AIA EPC is looking for candidates for the annual AIA Citizen Architect Award. Recipients will be honored at December’s President’s Night. Criteria for the nominations:
1. Be an Architect or Associate;
2. Serve as an appointed or elected member of a government committee, council, or body at the local, county, regional, or state level;
3. OR serve as a volunteer or in a leadership position for a non-profit organization that seeks to benefit people in need or communities as a whole.
4. In this role, advocate for one or more of the AIA Iowa’s core principles of Quality Design, Sustainability, and Livable Communities.

Please contact Scott Compton at SJC@Entecheng.com to nominate eligible candidates.

AIA EPC Scholarship

The AIA Eastern Pennsylvania chapter Scholarship Fund has been founded to provide scholarship assistance to qualified applicants, currently enrolled in an accredited architecture program, and who are serious about their long-term pursuit of licensure as a professional architect. Please pass this link on to any eager architectural student in our region.


“The Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of AIA is the voice of our regional architectural profession dedicated to serving and empowering its members. Our Vision is to inspire a better built environment by engaging the community through a culture of excellence and innovation.”

Feedback

We recently conducted a web-based survey of the AIA EPC’s events and activities. The findings, based on a small but representative cross section of the Chapter, indicated that the Board is meeting the Member’s needs in terms of programs and locations. It was interesting to note that the majority of respondents both live and work in the Lehigh Valley (Northampton and Lehigh Counties), followed by Berks County as coming in a consistent third for both categories.

Regarding event locations, again respondents prefer meetings between Allentown and Easton/Bethlehem. As for program content, 56% still prefer an AIA/CEU Presentation; followed by Building tours and conventional Architectural Lectures. As for joint meetings with other allied professionals, our membership favors the CSI/AIA events, followed by DVGBC and the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers. So we will look to team with those organizations in the coming year. Interestingly, the respondents seemed to affirm the Board’s current direction in meeting venues, meeting times, and event costs. So we will stay the course with those items.

Design Charrette

On October 20th, AIA EPC held their annual Design Charrette at Northampton Community College. Three teams of students, architects and architectural interns worked to develop sustainable mixed use retail and housing units in downtown Reading. Thanks to NHCC, and past-Presidents Sylvia Deye and John Young for their leadership.

2011 Board Members

Scott Compton, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP - President
Ryan Kennedy, AIA, LEED AP - President Elect
Michael Metzger, AIA, LEED AP - Secretary
Lenette Wells, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP - Treasurer
Sean P. O’Brien, AIA, LEED AP - Immediate Past President
Vacant – Young Architects Forum
Vacant – Young Architects Forum
Katie O’Regan, Assoc. AIA – Assoc. AIA Rep.
Jo Hohenwarter, Assoc. AIA – Assoc. AIA Rep.
Howard Quaintance, AIA, LEED AP – PA Board Director
James Spinola, AIA – PA Board Director
Gene Berg, AIA – Alternate PA Board Director