



THE REGION OF THE VIRGINIAS

June 2013 Report

HEADLINES

AIA NATIONAL CONVENTION

Moderated by AIA President, Mickey Jacob, the 2013 convention in Denver was electric!! Speakers focused on the social impact that we, as architects, can have on the community and not just the built environment. The messages were about how we integrate ourselves into the social fabric and perform as leaders and on the power of humanitarian efforts.



Blake Mycoskie
TOM's Shoes Founder



Mickey Jacob,
AIA President



Cameron Sinclair,
Architecture for
Humanity Founder



Colin Powell
Well you know who he is

Blake Mycoskie told the story of how he founded a TOM's Shoes, a company which provides a free pair of shoes to a child for every pair sold. This enterprise started off not as a profit center, but as a humanitarian outreach. The company grew quickly through word-of-mouth marketing, the sharing of the story. Blake continues his work in Brazil with great success.

Cameron Sinclair started *Architecture for Humanity* with a belief that we can do a better job of sheltering the world's most needy populations. AFH's mission is "building a more sustainable future by using the power of design." Through a global network of building professionals, AFH brings design, development and construction services to communities in need. His story was inspiring in that it showed how we can make a difference. *Design Like You Give a Damn* is his book....check it out.

I was unable to stay for the address by Secretary Colin Powell due to another conference that was scheduled right after the AIA Convention, but by all accounts it was inspiring and memorable.

ELECTED OFFICERS

The 2014 Executive Committee of the Board of Directors will look like this. * = Newly elected officers

President	Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA	Virginia
President- Elect	Elizabeth Chu Richter, FAIA*	Texas
Vice President, Communications	Tom Vonier, FAIA*	Continental Europe
Vice President, Advocacy	Jim Rains, FAIA*	North Carolina
Vice President, Community	Susan Chin, FAIA	New York
Vice President, Knowledge	Don Brown, FAIA	Alabama
Treasurer	John Grounds, AIA*	Washington DC
Secretary	Rich DeYoung, AIA	Pennsylvania

REPOSITIONING

The repositioning effort has gained momentum and was further galvanized by two resolutions from the floor at the business meeting. Stipulating deadlines for key milestones, these resolutions are an expression of the seriousness with which members take this effort. The AIA board is eager to move forward with, and take serious steps toward repositioning. Here are updates of what is going on:

Member Resources Task Force – This member-led task force is evaluating what it means to be an AIA member and what success looks like for the AIA in delivering a value proposition to its members.

Change Management – The AIA has hired the firm Kotter International to help identify productive and useful processes once we decide what our objectives are. The firm is on board now.

Engaging Emerging Professionals – The 2013 conventions featured Fellowships, programs, and a town square and other outreach projects for Emerging Professionals. An EP summit is planned for this fall.

Repositioning Ambassadors – A group of 30 AIA member has been chosen to assist Chapters in moving through repositioning. Susan Brain from AIA Hampton Roads was selected as an ambassador. Congratulations Susan!

Repositioning Innovation Fund – A fund has been set up to provide funding for Chapters with programs or ideas that will move the repositioning effort forward. The deadline is July 10th.

Virtual Town Hall Meetings – A series of virtual town hall meetings is being planned with the first being July 22nd.



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REGIONAL DINNER

We had a great dinner at Earl's Restaurant on 16th Street Pedestrian Mall with good conversation, fun and fellowship. Attending were (from left to right going around the table) Alice and Forrest French (AIA Richmond), Lynn Tucker (West Virginia), David Klemt (AIA Hampton Roads), JW Blanchard (AIA Blue Ridge), Mary Cox (Region of Virginias), Steve and Paula Loomis (AIA Hampton Roads, Eddie Tucker, (AIA West Virginia). Jeanne LeFever (AIA Richmond), Bill Talley (AIA Richmond). We missed Ed Weaver AIA Northern Virginia who sent his regrets since had already registered for the host chapter party.



The entire group at Earl's



Alice and Forrest French



David Klemt and JW Blanchard



Steve & Paula Loomis, Ed Tucker

Special thanks to Jeanne LeFever for bringing her camera to dinner in order to get these photos!



BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

The following two amendments passed:

- **13-A Rights of Associate and International Associate Members:** Components would be authorized (but not required) to have Associate and International Associates as officers. Associates may not hold more than two seats or 1/3 of the total seats, whichever is greater, even if this amendment is adopted.
- **13-B Allied Members** – Chapter Allied members would be permitted to use the phrase “Allied member of the [Name of Chapter] Chapter of the American Institute of Architects” to describe themselves.

The delegation approved a proposal to change the rules governing award of the Gold Medal so that it can be awarded to more than one person. The intent, however is to limit the number to two people to avoid duplicating the “AIA Firm Award”.

There were two resolutions from the floor which also passed. These stipulated milestones and deadlines for moving forward with repositioning. One requested a full day workshop in October 2013 with a set of recommendations by November 2013. Another requested an on-going conversation between regional directors and components.

PUBLIC DIRECTOR – NOMINATIONS

There are two non-architect members who serve on the AIA’s National Board. These members typically have an interest in the built environment, in architects and architecture and provide valuable insights from a unique perspective. The current two Public Directors are David Zach, a futurist and Mindy Fullilove M.D., a psychologist who researches and writes about the psychology of place. Please let me know if you have any candidates in mind for Public Director. The details are on the last page of this report. The nominations are due by August 16th and the Board of Directors will vote on candidates at its September 2013 meeting.

FORESIGHT REPORT

The AIA has conducted an “environmental scan” to inform our actions going forward. The findings have been assembled in something called a “Foresight Report” which is here: www.aia.org/foresight This 34-page report highlights key trends and their impacts on business and a profession in transition. Working with the Greenway Group, the AIA has focused on readily implementable strategies related to



sustainability, building performance, technology, leadership and more. This document will inform the repositioning effort and **is only available to AIA members** as part of the member value proposition.

NEW REGIONAL DIRECTOR

I hereby formally request statements of interest from candidates for the position of ***Regional Director of the Virginias***. Attached to this report are two documents to assist candidates with the process. One is a “position description” and the other is an application which candidates should complete and forward to me. These documents are also available on the Regional Directors landing page on the VSAIA website. Scroll down on that page and you’ll see a list of past Regional Directors starting with Paul Barkley in 1984 when our Region was formed.

Please note that as repositioning occurs, the composition of the current Board of Directors will be evaluated. It may be that the Region will be redefined or the method for input from regions modified. Call me at 804-828-0905 if you have any questions or want to discuss this great opportunity further!

Election Timeline:

June, July 2013	Regional Director requests names of nominees from Chapters and the Regional Board. Notice is given to all AIA Virginia and AIA West Virginia members via their websites. A nominating committee is appointed by the Regional Director.
August 3 2013	Nominations are closed.
August 2013	Nominating committee reviews the list of candidates and selects a nominee.
September 2013	Nominating committee presents the nominee to the Region of the Virginias Board. The Regional Board then elects the new Regional Director.
September 2013	AIA National is notified of the next Regional Director. The Regional Director-Elect is appointed to a committee and entered into the e-mail system.
Oct – Nov 2013	Regional Director-Elect shadows existing Regional Director and learn about processes, responsibilities and organizational matters.
December 2013	Regional Director-Elect attends orientation in Washington DC.
January 2014	New Regional Director starts his or her term.

The new Regional Director’s term will start in January 2014 but there will be an orientation session at AIA headquarters in early to mid-December 2013.



Region of the Virginias

Regional Director Position Description

Introduction

The primary duty of the Regional Director is to represent the Components within the Virginias at the national level. The AIA National Board Handbook (Chapter 5) further details this role. One quotation from that Chapter bears repeating here:

"Regional Directors are selected to serve on the AIA Board because of their experience, contributions to the profession and understanding of the region or organization that selects them. As a director, your viewpoint should be national in scope, while at the same time representing your region's or organization's unique interests."

A copy of Chapter 5 and a copy of the Regional Bylaws for the Virginias are attached for reference.

Time Commitment

The term of service for each Regional Director is 3 years. One third of the AIA National Board cycles off every year and a new group cycles in. Thus, the composition of the Board changes every year. For each of these three years, the Regional Director is expected to attend the following meetings:

Spring	Grass roots (Wash DC) AIA Board meeting
Summer	AIA National Convention AIA Board meeting
Fall	AIA Board meeting (usually outside of Wash DC)
Winter	AIA Board meeting (Wash DC) AIA Presidential Inaugural

In addition to attending the meeting, the Regional Director is expected to actively participate in them as needed. The Director should be sufficiently aware of the components views on the matters being discussed and debated so that he or she can faithfully represent the components. The AIA hosts WebEx



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Regional Director Position Description

calls about one or two weeks before each Board meeting. This acquaints the Director with the issues to be discussed and also enable him or her to contact components if their input is needed.

Each Director is assigned to serve on a national committee or is given an assignment of national scope. The committee work takes place outside of the regular board meetings. Most committees have regular (usually monthly) conference calls and some meet in person one time per year. The Regional Director-elect provide a narrative or a copy of their resume outlining their strengths and interests. Based on that, they are appointed to a committee by the AIA President.

Holding this office is an extremely rewarding experience, but requires a serious time commitment; and candidates are encouraged to seek support from their employer to make sure they can meet the obligations before taking on this role.

Duties & Responsibilities

An extremely important aspect of the Regional Director's responsibilities is his or her role as liaison between the AIA Board of Directors and the components within our region. It is essential that Regional Directors serve as a communication link between the Institute and the components to ensure a two-way flow of pertinent information, resources, and general concerns.

Chapter Visits

As liaison, the Regional Directors should visit each of the six components at least one time per year.

AIA Blue Ridge	AIA Northern Virginia
AIA Central Virginia	AIA Richmond
AIA Hampton Roads	AIA West Virginia

The AIA provides a stipend each year for this purpose. The Director must initiate contact with the components and follow up with them to arrange the meetings. The Virginia Society AIA is also a component and the Regional Directors should maintain close contact with the VS AIA. A sample copy of the Chapter contacts is attached.



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Regional Director Position Description

Reports

The Regional Director is expected to provide monthly reports covering matters being discussed and debated at the national level (sample attached). Although AIA national provides "talking points", the components really appreciate a report that is custom designed for their interests. Ideally these will be posted on the websites of VSAIA and AIA West Virginia so that all members in both states will have access to the updates. A sample report is attached.

Regional Board Meetings

The Regional Board is composed of those members of the VSAIA Board of Directors who are not officers, plus the President of AIA West Virginia, plus the Regional Director, and finally, the Regional Associates Director. The Regional Director chairs all regional board meetings which are typically inserted into a regularly scheduled VSAIA board meeting since the overlapping membership is so great.

There are no regularly scheduled Regional Board meetings in the Virginias since there is an infrequent need to decide matters as a board. However, the Regional Director should convene regional meetings as needed. As an example, there was confusion on voting at the AIA National Convention business meeting, so a conference call was scheduled in April before the May convention to clarify the rules for everyone. There will be a need to nominate and vote upon Regional Associates Director and the Virginias Regional Director's eventual replacement. Both of these require a regional board meeting. Any Bylaws changes also require a regional board meeting. In the past, there have been regional retreats, usually scheduled in the summer. However, recent budget shortages have prevented such events.

Young Architects Regional Director and Regional Associates Director

The Regional Director is responsible for recruiting (or assisting in recruiting) young talent to fill the following roles when the term of the incumbent expires:

- Regional Associates Director
- Young Architect Regional Director

The Young Architects Forum (YAF) nominates and elects the YARD (Young Architects Regional Director) every two years but may request input from the Regional Director if applicants are scarce. The Regional Director must recruit a new Regional Associates Director (RAD) when the term of the incumbent expires. The election process for the RAD is outlined in the Bylaws.



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Regional Director Position Description

Committee Appointments and Nominations

On occasion, there will be opportunities to appoint a member to a national committee. These notices usually come from the Institute Secretary. The Regional Director is responsible for recruiting and recommending qualified people to fill these positions as appropriate.

Dinners and Receptions

The Regional Director is responsible for organizing social gatherings at national events such as Grassroots and the AIA National convention. This can take the form of a reception or a regional dinner. The region has no budget and in fact is prohibited from creating one. The Regional Directors should identify a restaurant or space in the host hotel well in advance of the event since these fill up fast.

Election of New Regional Director

Below is a general timeline for the last year of the incumbent Regional Director.

June	Regional Director requests names of nominees from Chapters and the Regional Board. Notice is given to all AIA Virginia and AIA West Virginia members via their websites. A nominating committee is appointed by the Regional Director.
July	Nominations are closed.
August	Nominating committee reviews the list of candidates and selects a nominee.
September	Nominating committee presents the nominee to the Region of the Virginias Board who then elects the new Regional Director. AIA National is notified and the Regional Director-Elect is appointed to a committee and added to the e-mail list.
October	Regional Director-Elect shadows existing Regional Director and learn about processes, responsibilities and organizational matters.
December	Regional Director-Elect attends orientation in Washington D.C.
January	New Regional Director starts his or her term.



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Region of the Virginias

Regional Director Application

Introduction

The primary duty of the Regional Director is to represent the Components within the Virginias (Virginia and West Virginia) at the national level. The AIA National Board Handbook (Chapter 5) further details this role. Please also read the Regional Director Position Description which more fully describes the duties and responsibilities of the position for our Region. This position has a three-year term requiring the member to live and work in Virginia or West Virginia during that time. The following questions are intended to give you a chance to describe your experience and expertise in relevant areas so that the nominating committee can properly evaluate the candidates.

Questions

1. Describe your level of involvement in your local AIA Chapter including leadership roles.
2. Describe your involvement in any architectural matters with regional or national impact or exposure.



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Region of the Virginias

Regional Director Application

3. Regional Directors are selected to serve on the AIA Board because of their experience, contributions to the profession and understanding of the region or organization that selects them. As a director, your viewpoint should be national in scope, while at the same time representing your region's or organization's unique interests. How would you respond to a member who is disgruntled with an AIA Board decision even though you voted in alignment with the member?

4. Although board meetings occur only quarterly, the time commitment for committee work and conference calls and board decision-making in between board meetings can be significant. Please address your commitment to meeting the time demands of Board service.

5. An extremely important responsibility of the Regional Director's is to be a liaison between the AIA Board of Directors and the components within our region. It is essential that Regional Directors serve as a communication link between the Institute and the components to ensure a two-way flow of pertinent information, resources, and general concerns. What is your plan for staying connected to chapters and members?

6. An important part of this role is collaborating with the Regional Associates Director and the Young Architects Forum Regional Director. What is your experience working with Emerging Professionals and what are your ideas for strengthening this bond?



Regional Director Application

9. What more would you like to tell us about yourself or your experiences, or what you would hope to accomplish as Regional Director?

END DOCUMENT



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Memorandum

Date: Monday, July 1, 2013

To: AIA Board of Directors
State and Local Component Presidents
Council of Architectural Component Executives
Former AIA Presidents

From: Institute Secretary Richard DeYoung, FAIA

Subject: Call for Nominations of AIA Public Director

You are invited to suggest the nomination of an individual for the position of Public Director to the AIA Board of Directors for the 2014-2016 term.

As defined in the Institute Bylaws, a Public Director is "... a non-architect who is not in any membership category (except Honorary Membership) nor employed by the Institute or a component."

The broad spectrum of public figures serving as Public Directors has contributed to the productivity and direction of the Board. Public Directors should not be hesitant to express their opinions. They should be interested in issues such as sustainability, business leadership, government, and, of course, architecture. With the focus on repositioning, expertise in branding initiatives or public outreach would be an asset.

Prior to submitting a nomination, the nominator should ensure that he/she has **personally** contacted the nominee to discuss the requirements and the considerable demands associated with the position. We have had mixed success with the level of commitment and participation the Public Director has brought to the position, and we want to be sure the nominee is well aware of the requirements.

For example, candidates often ask about the meeting schedule. While the 2014 meeting calendar is not yet set, you may share with your prospective nominee that meetings are held in conjunction with Grassroots (March) and Convention (June), in addition to the fall meeting (2nd or 3rd week of September) and the December annual meeting (December 11-12, 2014).

Nominations are open through 5:00 p.m. (EDT), Friday, August 16, 2013.



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END REPORT