AIA Japan

Newsletter - November 2006 (No. 1)

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AIA Jap A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

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Message from 2007 AIA President:

Creative Collaboration is the key to the next generation of architects.

We learn many things from different people and different cultures. The issues that we face in Japan today may have already happened somewhere else, and it is important not to repeat the same mistakes in the same situations. We can avoid these mistakes and maximize our contribution to society by sharing our experiences with each other. As the president of 2007, my goal is to enhance the collaborations among architects, and to make more accessible the knowledge and skill from specialist of other fields to make our society more livable and attractive. AIA architects need to be conscious of the importance of excellent design for creating a more attractive built environment. We need to promote the important role of architects for a better community.

Jun Mitsui, AIA, JIA AIA Japan, 2007 President

Welcome to Corporate Affiliates

We would like to extend our thanks to the businesses that have generously offered their support of AIA Japan.



Carl Hansen & Son Japan K.K. www.carlhansen.jp



ERCO TOTO@Ltd. www.erco.com/news/en/en_frameset_news.htm



DAIKO Electric Co.,LTD www.lighting-daiko.co.jp



Marvin Windows and Doors Japan www.marvin.com



Basic Information Center http://www.bic-net.jp



American Hardwood Export Council www.ahec-japan.org

Event Reminders for 2007



AIA 2007 National Convention and Design Exposition May 3-5, 2007 / San Antonio, TX http://www.aiaconvention.com



2007 Grassroots Leadership and Legislative Conference February 7-10, 2007, Grand Hyatt, Washington DC http://www.aia.org/ev grassroots 2007

2007 Northwest and Pacific Region Conference September 26-29, 2007, Spokane, Montana,

Message from 2006 AIA President:

AIA Japan was founded on June 2, 2005, the culmination of a multi-year campaign for recognition from AIA National. We are grateful for the continued support we have received from National, and proud to be the most recent addition to the AIA's increasingly international presence. We are similarly indebted to the AIA's sister organization here in Japan, the JIA. We trust that our presence here will only strengthen ties between the JIA and AIA, who have enjoyed a long and mutually cooperative relationship.

Since our founding, AIA Japan has held several events on our own, and others in tandem with local organizations - notably the Wrightian Architectural Archives Japan, the American Hardwood Export Council, the Urban Land Institute, the Tokyo Planning Forum, and the American Club. These relationships have been relatively easy to form, largely due to the wide respect accorded to the AIA in general, and a generally high level of interest in the design profession across Japan. We are indebted to the support of these organizations, and look forward to continuing these relationships long into the future.

Perhaps our greatest success has been the Continuing Education program, which has provided members with learning opportunities roughly once a month. Accumulating CES Learning Units was a major concern of our members, and a major cause of membership drop-out in Japan prior to AIA Japan's existence. Looking ahead, AIA Japan's Board has recently approved a motion to join the AIA's Northwest and Pacific Region, becoming part of a vast area that stretches across the Pacific as far as Hong Kong. We look forward to active participation in this larger community, and believe this will open a variety of new opportunities to our members and corporate affiliates - including scholarships, award programs, and a variety of sponsorship programs. We also hope to host the yearly Regional Conference here in 2011.

More than anything, we are grateful for the community that AIA Japan has created. At one of our early meetings, several of the attendees had worked for Cesar Pelli Associates in New Haven, but had not met since returning to Japan. Re-establishing old connections and making new ones is perhaps less critical to stateside AIA chapters, but is fundamental to our chapter's inception and growth. As the practice of architecture continues to bring the world closer together, it is heartening to know that the AIA has a role to play here as well.

Michel van Ackere, AIA AIA Japan, 2006 President

2006年度日本支部会長からのごあいさつ

AIA 日本支部は本部への数年間に渡る働きかけの末、2005年6月2日に設立されました。設立後も本部からの手厚い 支援をいただき感謝いたしております。日本支部設立により私達は AIA の国際展開の最前線に加わることができたと自 負します。私達の姉妹組織でありますJIAの皆様にも多大なご支援をいただきました。JIAとAIAは長年に渡り協調関係 を築いてまいりましたが、当支部設立により今後はその関係を更に深めていければと願っております。

日本支部の設立以後、私達が開催した独自のイベントもいくつかございましたが、多くは共同イベントでした。共同させ ていただいた組織は、アメリカ広葉樹輸出協会、Urban Land Institute、東京プランニングフォーラム、アメリカンクラブな どです。これらの組織の皆様との関係強化は比較的スムーズに進みました。これは、AIA自体の高い認知度と、日本 におけるデザインに対する一般的な関心の高さの表れでしょう。私達はこれらの組織のご協力に感謝いたしますと共に、 今後益々関係を発展していきたいと願っております。

私達の活動の中で、最も成果を上げることができたのはCESではないでしょうか。概ね毎月1回、会員の皆様に学習の 機会を提供することが出来ました。日本支部の設立以前は、CES単位の取得の機会は限られ、このことが日本におけ るAIA会員権維持の最大の障害でした。将来を見据え、支部理事会は先日AIA北西部/環太平洋地域連盟に加盟する ことを決定しました。これにより、アメリカ本土から太平洋を横断し香港に至るまでの広域なコミュニティーの一員となるこ とができました。今後はこの連盟においても積極的な活動を展開し、会員の皆様、企業協賛会員の皆様にも奨学金プ ログラム、表彰プログラム、スポンサーシッププログラムなど様々な機会を与えていくことができると考えております。私 達は2011年に地域連盟大会 (Regional Conference)を主催する予定です。

そして何よりも、AIA日本支部により作られた人の輪に感謝したいと思います。初期のミーティングで、ニューヘブンのシー ザーペリ事務所で勤務した経験のある人同士が偶然に出会うというような場面もありました。古くからの関係を温める、 あるいは新たな関係を築く場所としてのAIA。アメリカ本土のAIA支部においてはそれほど重要なことではないかもしれま せんが、日本支部においては今後の発展のためにも欠かすことの出来ない重要な役割です。建築を通じて益々世界中 の人々が繋がっていける世の中にあって、AIAがその一翼を担っていることをとても嬉しく思います。

ミッシェル・ヴァン・アカー AIA日本支部2006年度会長

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Michel van Ackere (far right) at 2006 AIA Conference in Los Angeles



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Karen Plunkett - Muenster, Jim Lambiasi, and Itsuko Hasegawa







2006 Regional Conference in Hong Kong

The AIA Northwest and Pacific Region Conference took place in Hong Kong and Shanghai from Oct. 15 to Oct. 22. Attendees that represented AIA Japan were Honorary AIA Member Itsuko Hasegawa, Pres.-Elect Jun Mitsui, Wasaku Kuno, Riccardo Tossani, and Jim Lambiasi. Itsuko Hasegawa presented her work in her lecture "Architecture as a Thinking Environment." Jun Mitsui participated in a lively discussion panel that focused on the potential hazards of doing business between different cultures, entitled Lost in Translation: Cross-Cultural Practice in Asia. Jim Lambiasi represented AIA Japan in the NW & Pacific Region annual meeting, where we were warmly greeted as new members. We look forward to our future membership of this regional chapter, as it will offer many opportunities to meet fellow AIA members, participate in educational programs, and be eligible for awards in design. If you would like to learn more about the NW & Pacific Region organization, please see their homepage at http://aianwpr.org.

Events of 2006

Thanks to all members who have participated in AIA Japan sponsored events this year. All events were registered with the AIA Continuing Education System and all members received CES points for their participation. Below are some of the events from this year:

American Hardwood Architect Seminar

Speakers:

Craig Curtis, AIA / Partner: The Miller Hull Partnership, LLP Yoshiji Takehara / Architect, Professor of Architecture at Osaka City University

Lecture on Sustainable Design with Craig Curtis

Speaker: Craig Curtis, AIA / Partner: The Miller Hull Partnership, LLP





American Hardwood Architect Seminar

Time Today

Speaker: Professor Dana Buntrock / Associate Professor, University of California, Berkeley

Wright and Modernism: Defining Space Speakers:

Professor Hisao Kohyama / Hon. FAIA, former Dean of Architecture, University of Tokyo Professor Yoshito Tomioka / Associate Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, Mie University



Professor Hisao Kohyama, Wac Kuno, and Koichi Mon

Welcome New Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to new members to AIA Japan, and we look forward to your involvement in future activities. For information please refer to our email notices and also updates on our homepage www.aiajapan.org.

Welcome New Honorary Members

Congratulations to Itsuko Hasegawa and Takanobu Ota for receiving the designation of honorary fellow, designated by the 2006 Jury of Fellows from The American Institute of Architects. They received their Fellowship medal during the Investiture of Fellows Ceremony at the AIA 2006 National Convention and Design Expo in Los Angeles in June 2006.

www.aiajapan.org

We hope that you have used our homepage www.aiajapan.org. Not only is this a resource to access important event information, but our goal is to use this webpage to elevate the visibility of AIA architects practicing in Japan. There is a gallery section that displays recent work by AIA members, and a members' list that provides contact information for people searching for an AIA architect in Japan. This information is added to the members' list upon receiving your permission; if you would like this information included please contact us at mail@aiajapan.org.

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Lecture on Sustainable Design with Craig Curtis