PSU AIAS Discusses Activities and Upcoming Events

On February 18th, the Penn State AIAS Chapter welcomed the AIA Middle PA Chapter to the Stuckeman School for a Dinner Presentation put on by the AIAS students. The students enjoyed the opportunity to share the work and activities they have been busy with throughout the year and had a great time eating pizza and walking around the studios with the AIA members.

The AIAS gave a presentation about their trip to Savannah, Georgia over the winter break to partake in the AIAS FORUM Conference hosted by the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). The AIAS sent five students to the FORUM Conference at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Architecture students in the historic city of Savannah. The events focused on the issues facing architectural education and the profession while giving students the opportunity to network and interact with other architecture students and professionals from across the country, spreading ideas and exchanging experiences with each other. The students participated in tours, workshops, and seminars, and sat in on four keynote lectures from esteemed professionals including Christian Sottile from Soittle and Sottile Architects, Rusty Smith from Rural Studio, futurist, David Zach, and architect, Antoine Predock. The students thoroughly enjoyed their time spent in Savannah and came away with a great experience to share with their peers and AIA members during the Dinner Presentation.

The AIAS also spoke of their upcoming Northeast Spring Quad Conference to take place from March 22-24. The theme of the conference is “From Bytes to Built,” with a focus on craft and digital fabrication. The students gave a sneak peak at all the events and activities that will be happening over the conference weekend including a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob, a construction tour of the Pegula Ice Arena, campus tours, and hands-on workshops. The students will be participating in workshops and competitions that range over a number of technologies including a Grasshopper and Rhino, 3D printing fabrication, CNC fabrication, interactive environments gestural computing, and plaster.

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Message from the President
Tom Columbus, Jr., AIA, LEED AP

This new year’s beginning has brought many changes to our AIA PA Component along with some changes within our small Chapter. Long-time Executive Director, Caroline Boyce resigned this February 13, from AIA PA to pursue a position in her first field of endeavor – historic preservation. Quickly following was Bob Keaton, our AIA PA Government Affairs Manager. Our PAC activities are currently being handled by an outside consultant, until this position is filled.

Within our Chapter, Carmen Wyckoff, AIA, has alerted the AIA Pa Middle Chapter Executive Board that her recent distant relocation to the Hayes Large Virginia branch office is causing her a problem in keeping up with her Treasurer’s duties, and she has requested we begin looking for a replacement.

Many thanks to all three for a job well done! We hope your new endeavors prove to be beneficial to you.

On another note, our Symposium planning is moving full steam ahead. Our date has been established as October 24 at the Blair County Convention Center. See Page 5 of this Newsletter for a separate article relating to the Symposium.

Our student contingent has pulled off the planning of an event at PSU that has never happened in the history of the University – that is the Northeast Spring Quad Conference on March 22-24. Architectural Schools from all over the Northeast will be converging on the PSU campus attending seminars, construction tours, and team building projects. We are proud of the students for being able to plan and orchestrate this event!

Finally, our next general meeting will be on April 18 at the new Sheetz Shwellness Center in Claysburg PA. This is a joint meeting with ASHRAE. The event presented by CaptiveAire will count towards continuing ed. See you there.

Tom
PSU AIAS Activities  
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casting. There will also be two keynote lectures. Michael McCune will be presenting on the work from CASE building and technology focusing on the design and construction of the Louisiana State Museum and Sports Hall of Fame -- a case study for BIM parametric design, digital fabrication, and virtual construction. Luis Longhi is a Peruvian architect as well as a principal professor teaching at UPC Lima, Peru, and a visiting professor at the University of Hawaii. The AIAS is looking forward to hearing both the keynotes speakers.

The AIA Middle PA Chapter members have been invited to join the AIAS Quad Conference. Specifically, there will be a “Meet and Greet with the Professionals Dinner” on Friday, March 22 at 5:30 pm. Registration for AIA members will be $50 at the door all day on Friday. Registration gives access to all the events and keynote lecturers throughout the weekend.

For more information, please go to the conference website at www.aiaspennstate.org/quad/

AIA Middle PA Chapter Seeking PAC Committee Representative

With the retirement of Fred Fernsler, AIA, the AIA Middle PA Chapter is seeking a replacement for Fred as our representative on the AIA-PA PAC Management Committee. Anyone interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Fred at fjfaia@aol.com

Thanks from your Chapter Executive Committee.
SAVE THE DATE!!

AIA MIDDLE PENNSYLVANIA SYMPOSIUM

ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS
Partners in Progress

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2013
Blair County Convention Center, Altoona

SAVE THE DATE!
AIA Middle Pennsylvania Chapter Symposium

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2013
Blair County Convention Center, Altoona

ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS - Partners in Progress

- Earn HSW and SD credits
- Practical information to share with clients
- Interactive vendor exhibition
- Networking with colleagues from architectural, engineering, construction and related fields

Contact Anne McGrath at annefmcgrath@verizon.net or 814-539-1317 for more info.

Visit www.aiamiddlepa.org for exhibitor and sponsor info!

Thomas Columbus, Jr., AIA
PO Box 158
Vincentown, PA 15961-0158
Symposium Set for October 24!

Planning is well underway for the 2013 symposium. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us!

Architects and Engineers - Partners in Progress
Thursday, October 24
8:30 am – 4:45 pm, with optional dinner presentation
Blair County Convention Center, Altoona

Guests will earn HSW and SD credits, walk away with practical information to share with clients, and have the opportunity to network with colleagues from architectural, engineering, construction and related fields. The popular interactive vendor exhibition will return, too, giving guests a chance to see, first-hand, the latest in architectural products and services.

Check the chapter web site and your in-box for more information and updates throughout the coming months.

For more information, please contact Anne McGrath, event coordinator, at annefmcgrath@verizon.net or 814-539-1317.

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No Increase in Symposium Registration Fee

Online Registration Available Soon
In today’s cost-conscious times, it’s good to know that registration fees for the 2013 Symposium have not increased. Fees remain at 2011 levels for the day-long event.

Member (Register by 9/24) …………………. $175
Member (After 9/24) …………………………… $200
Non-Member (Register by 9/24) …………. $200
Non-Member (After 9/24 …………………….. $225

Online registration for the event will begin this spring. Be sure to budget for the Symposium now to take advantage of the early registration!

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Vendors Lining Up for 2013 Symposium

The Symposium vendor exhibition continually gets high marks from Symposium guests who appreciate having the time to talk to industry representatives about the latest products and services. Companies appreciate the opportunity, too. In fact, just days after receiving information about the event, several companies have already signed on to join us:

Fierst Distributing – Jim Tasillo, jim@fierstdistributing.com
Keller Engineers – Randy Diviney, rdiviney@keller-engineers.com
Supply Source – Karen Temple, karent@supplysourceinc.com
Comfort Supply – Brendan Heckler, bheckler@comfortsupplypgh.com

Please be sure to thank these representatives the next time you see them. Look for more information on participating vendors in the weeks and months to come!
SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS

Please call Dee Columbus at 814-749-7952 to place an advertisement.