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21st Annual Joint Dinner of the Design and Construction Industry

Kevin Lembo, Connecticut State Comptroller
will deliver the keynote address

Presented by

Robinson+Cole

Wine with Dinner sponsored by



CITRIN COOPERMAN®
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February 22, 2017

The Aqua Turf Club

556 Mulberry Road

Plantsville, CT

5:30 - 6:30 Reception

6:30 Dinner followed by keynote address

The Joint Dinner of the Design and Construction Industry is an evening of networking, collegiality and relationship building. This annual event is an extraordinary business opportunity for members of the participating professional associations.

Hosting Organizations

ACE Mentoring Program

American Council of Engineering Companies of CT

American Institute of Architects, CT Chapter

American Society of Interior Design, CT Chapter

American Society of Landscape Architects, CT Chapter

Associated Builders & Contractors of Connecticut, Inc.

Associated General Contractors of CT

American Society of Professional Estimators, Nutmeg Chapter #60

Connecticut Asphalt and Aggregates Producers Assoc.

Connecticut Building Congress

Connecticut Concrete Promotion Council

Connecticut Construction Industries Association

Connecticut Environmental and Utilities Contractors

Connecticut Green Building Council

Connecticut In-Plant Operators Association

Connecticut QBS Council

Connecticut Ready Mixed Concrete Association

Connecticut Road Builders Association

Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers

Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers

Connecticut Subcontractors Association

Construction Institute, University of Hartford

Construction Management Association of America

Equipment Dealers Division

Heavy and Highway Division

Independent Electrical Contractors of New England

International Masonry Institute

Mechanical Contractors Association of CT

NAIOP - Commercial Real Estate Development Assoc.

National Association of Women in Construction, Hartford Chapter, 165

National Fire Sprinklers Association

Professional Women in Construction - CT Chapter

Society for Marketing Professional Services

Utility Contractors Association of Connecticut

[Register](#)

2017 Codes Programs

In an effort to insure that AIA Connecticut members have the necessary tools for working with Connecticut's newly adopted State Building and Fire Codes (in force as of October 1, 2016), the chapter's Building Performance and Regulations Committee (BP&R) is sponsoring seven code-related programs in the first quarter of 2017. All will be held at the AIA Connecticut office at 370 James Street, New Haven. Program dates, topics and speakers are:

January 17

The 2012 International Residential Code

Presented by Greg Grew, AIA

January 31

Envelope Requirements and Compliance Documentation for the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code

Presented by Fred Wajcs, PE

February 8

Changes in the Connecticut Accessibility Codes

Presented by David Arai, AIA; Greg Grew, AIA

February 28

The 2012 International Building Code: Chapters 3 and 4 and 7 and 9

Presented by Bruce Spiewak

March 15

The 2012 International Building Code: an Overview

Presented by Greg Grew, AIA

April 5

The 2012 Fire Code: an Overview

Presented by Mike Sinsigalli, Deputy Fire Marshal, West Hartford

May 23

The 2012 Fire Code, Part 2

Presented by Mike Sinsigalli

June 6

The 2012 Existing Building Code

Presented by Bruce Spiewak, AIA

Registration may be made through the calendar dates for each program on the AIA Connecticut website, www.aia.org.

President's Column

By George Fellner, AIA

It is certainly an honor to serve the architectural community as President of AIA Connecticut for 2017. As I contemplate this new role, I recall recently being asked by a colleague what excites me each morning as I consider my day's activities. This question triggered the spark to search my mind for an honest and revealing response. I quickly realized that I am pleased to have the sequential, ongoing opportunities to design projects for the public that can have a positive effect for all types of interactions with the built and natural environments. Of course, I know that I share this sentiment with many of you. In turn, this aspiring awareness implies the sobering realization that we architects also have a tremendous obligation to provide responsive professional services for serving the public.

Continuing education is certainly one of the many important avenues for ensuring a responsive and high level of architectural services by our members. AIA Connecticut, through planning by its multiple committees and staff support, continuously offers a varied cornucopia of programs involving all aspects of our profession. For example, the Building Performance & Regulations Committee continues to implement programs that focus on the recently adopted building codes. The Committee on the Environment strives to develop new programs that address sustainability and resiliency. In addition, the Education Committee, Small Firms Committee, Professional Practice Committee, and the Historic Resources Committee collaborate with related organizations and professionals, offering important learning opportunities.

AIA Connecticut also helps to implement responsive professional experiences through the Communications Committee and the Design Committee through the awards programs, particularly with opportunities for engaging the public. The Government Affairs Committee, assisted by our lobbyists, focuses on legislative issues. In addition, the AIA Connecticut Fellows provides information on the Fellowship process. As a means for promoting opportunities for education, networking and community involvement for architectural interns, newly licensed architects, and Associate AIA members, the Emerging Architects Committee helps to implement professional development.

It is important to maintain a clear perspective of our ongoing goals, along with the understanding of the associative responsibilities. I encourage our members to participate in AIA Connecticut's programs. In turn, this involvement will help to preserve and reinforce our positions as leaders of the professional design community, responsible for creating a positive built environment. The staff of AIA Connecticut is truly responsive and works closely with the Board of Directors to help coordinate and sustain the ongoing functions and roles served by this professional association for Connecticut architects.

University of Hartford Architecture Program Embraces Global Studies

By Daniel Davis, AIA

As an accredited Architectural Program, the University of Hartford's (UH) Master of Architecture (MArch) Program is required to demonstrate that each graduate possesses certain abilities and understanding. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), the sole agency accrediting US architectural programs, has defined 26 different student performance criteria. Two of these criteria are of special interest to us, those being (A7) History & Culture and (A8) Cultural Diversity & Social Equity. History & Culture is defined by NAAB as an understanding of the parallel and divergent histories of architecture and the cultural norms of a variety of indigenous, vernacular, local, regional settings in terms of their political, economic, social, and technological factors. Cultural Diversity & Social Equity is defined as an understanding of the diverse needs, values, behavioral norms, physical abilities, and social and spatial patterns that characterize different cultures and individuals and the responsibility of the architect to ensure equity of access to buildings and structures.

The MArch design sequence, taken in four semesters, is comprised of three design studios plus a thesis. We see the first studio as an opportunity to become a member of the University and City of Hartford community with projects focused locally in Hartford and Middletown. In the second design studio, the doors are opened for our students to travel to the likes of Istanbul, Florence and this year's destination of Cuba. The intent is to experience a rich architectural culture and allow it to influence the student's design attitude and approach. The students then engage in urban design projects in global settings such as the Istanbul Waterfront and a Florentine Plaza, followed by urban design projects in US cities like Chicago, Providence and Hartford. In the third design studio, we travel to Montreal, QC and tackle two design projects based there. This year the students designed a branch library in Montreal's Chinatown and an Islamic Center in Montreal's Westmont neighborhood. These community based projects provide a unique educational opportunity, requiring the students to understand and appreciate how architecture must reflect not only its place, program, client, budget and time but also the politically and emotionally sensitive issues they can evoke. Lastly, the students complete an Architectural Master's Thesis, a singular design or design-related project as selected by the individual student. The project is based on independent research and preliminary design work, and is of sufficient depth and breadth to display a mastery of design skills and comprehensive understanding of architectural issues. The students see this as an opportunity to engage current politically sensitive global issues, such as Refugee Centers, Healthcare Facilities, Community Centers and Rehabilitation Centers, in places such as Brooklyn, Alaska, St Croix, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey.

All of our faculty have global exposure with a structured international experience as part of their architectural education. And beyond this, we have faculty members with architectural degrees from the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Romania, Turkey, and Nigeria. Globalization is upon us, and students need to see it, hear it, touch it and learn it from

people who have experienced it.

We are proud of our ability to attract a diverse student population, which includes domestic and international students. Historically, our graduate student mix is comprised of 1/3 of students from our own undergraduate program, 1/3 of students from other US accredited architectural programs and 1/3 international students. We have enrolled students from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Pakistan, India, Egypt, Palestine, Denmark, Ethiopia, and Turkey. Learning how to interact with people from other countries and cultures teaches students to appreciate differences up close and first-hand.

To further enrich our international exposure we have been actively pursuing exchange agreements with international architecture programs. Our efforts have successfully led to our first exchange agreement, with University of Wismar in Germany. Wismar is located right by the Baltic Sea in the northwesterly corner of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and it is certificated as a world cultural heritage site of UNESCO. Wismar, like the UH, focuses on Technology, Business and Design and their architecture program, like ours, is interdisciplinary and practice oriented. This exchange appears to be a perfect fit and will allow Hartford and Wismar to exchange students and someday faculty as well.

Thanks to the generous support of Tai Soo Kim, we have a Traveling Fellowship, named in his honor, and designed exclusively for second-year UH Architecture Graduate Students to support the independent study of global architecture. Recipients can travel anywhere in the world for a month, as long as their program of study includes an enrichment and service component. MArch students Jillian Tomaselli (M'16) and Ryan Glick (M'16) were recently awarded the 2016 TSK Traveling Fellowship for European travel to research cross laminated timber, a new sustainable building technology, with travel that brought them to London, Helsinki, Zürich, Dornbirn, and Vienna. Past winners' travel has included Cambodia, Mongolia, Germany, Denmark, Spain, Morocco, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico, Pacific Northwest, and Canada.

All of these activities connect the UH's MArch Program to the global architectural design community and create an environment that allows us to address NAAB's concern for History & Culture and Cultural Diversity & Social Equity. We feel that an international experience is an essential and necessary component of a well-rounded architectural education. Our students learn that architecture can indeed successfully deal with political and emotionally sensitive issues. Global awareness causes the students to grow and mature as architectural professionals, and to appreciate the power of architecture to address political and sensitive issues. Beyond this, I am certain that our students have satisfied our NAAB global studies obligations and are well prepared for the global practice of architecture. They gain confidence, independence and other life-skills as they meet new challenges and gain a new perspective on the world.



Toys for Tots a Great Success!

AIA Connecticut's Toys for Tots drive, sponsored by the Emerging Architecture Committee and AIA Connecticut's neighbors, Bond Brothers Inc., Southern New England Division, was a HUGE success! AIA Connecticut members were encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy when they attended an AIA Connecticut event in the month of December. Bond Brothers Engineering collected monetary contributions at its annual holiday party and then had a field day toy shopping. Many children will be delighted to receive these wonderful gifts.

Thank you to all who contributed!

In Memoriam

Ed Johnson, AIA of Branford, passed away on December 23, 2016 following a brief illness. He was a partner in his architectural firm of Johnson and Michalsen. Ed and his partner designed over 100 buildings and homes in Branford alone. He also taught architecture at Yale University for 11 years.

AIA Connecticut offers its deepest sympathy to Ed's family, colleagues and friends. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter, 749 East Main Street, Branford, CT 06405.

