As I write this the temperatures have swung from the 30's to 60's in a couple of days, there is news coverage of storms and rumors of tornadoes. It must be spring in Ohio. For AIA Ohio it's been a busy one. There is currently a lot of energy on our board and we are moving forward on a couple of primary agenda items.

Ohio was well represented at the Grassroots Convention in March and Repositioning was a major topic of conversation. What I learned is individual State Components within AIA are very diverse in their structure; and implementation of Repositioning is challenging components to consider how they function and deliver services to members. Distance is a major challenge for states with large geographic areas and few urban centers. Isolated members in some western states can be hundreds of miles from a chapter location and it can be very frustrating for them to receive services or to fraternize with their colleagues. We in Ohio are fortunate to have strong local components throughout the state. We need to continue to be diligent in serving our members and Repositioning is challenging all of us to explore how we are delivering services to our membership. Repositioning’s Core Criteria reinforced our conclusion that Public Outreach is one area AIA Ohio can and should do better.

The goal is clear; what is our message and who do we want to deliver it to? Our first step towards the goal was to retain a media consultant. We are in the first phase of the process which is to align our message with the AIA National campaign and identify our media conduits using traditional and social media. This program will benefit the entire state and details will be forthcoming as we move through the process.

AIA Ohio has also decided to move to a digital on line format for the Design Awards Program. The platform we have chosen has been used successfully in several other states and will make submissions easier to
Lastly there was a lot of conversation about future architects and students at Grassroots and we should be proud of what we are doing in Ohio. In an advocacy session I attended Ohio was the only state in the room that has a seat on our state board for our schools of Architecture. We continue to grow our CARES program that offers financial support to ARE candidates and AIA Ohio engages our schools of Architecture throughout the year. Let's continue to nurture and attract the best talent to the Buckeye State.

Best,

Jim Sarks, AIA
AIA Ohio President

AIA Ohio's "Good Samaritan" Bill Moving

David W. Field, CAE, Hon. AIA,
Executive Vice President

For the past two and a half months the 131st Ohio General Assembly has been focused upon Governor Kasich's proposed budget bill (HB64) and the state's transportation bill (HB53). During this time, however AIA Ohio has made significant progress on its pursuit of a "Good Samaritan" Bill, which this year is HB 17.

Good Samaritan Bill:

In January HB 17 was introduced again by Rep. Louis Blessing III (R-Cincinnati) and referred to the House Commerce and Labor Committee where AIA Ohio Immediate Past President Elizabeth Murphy, FAIA presented AIA Ohio testimony. The Committee unanimously approved the bill on February 17 with the House following suit February 25. From there it went to the Senate where a Sponsor's Hearing was held March 18 in the Senate Civil Justice Committee.

HB17 would grant a volunteer who is an architect, engineer, surveyor or contractor qualified immunity from civil liability for any acts, errors, or omissions conducted in the performance of professional services that are requested by government officials, for a building, structure, piping, or other engineered system during a declared emergency and 90 days thereafter. No immunity is granted from wanton, willful or intentional misconduct.

Budget Bill:

On February 2, 2015, Ohio Governor John Kasich released his "Blueprint for a New Ohio" in which he outlined budget goals for the 2016-2017 fiscal years. Continuing a trend from prior budgets, the plan calls for further reductions in the personal income tax rate, expansion of the small business deduction, revisions to the minimum commercial activity tax for businesses with less than $2 million in annual receipts, and increased personal exemptions for lower and middle income taxpayers. The reductions would be paid for in part by increases in the sales, cigarette and commercial activity tax rates, as well as a revamping of Ohio's severance tax on oil and natural gas. Overall, the proposal claims a reduction of over $500 million over the two years.
Senate Studying Tax Expenditures (Historic Renovation Credits):

The Senate Ways and Means Committee has begun what Chairman Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) characterized as a "deep dive" into the issue of tax expenditures.

Tax Expenditures include such things as Historic Renovation Tax Credits and tax exemptions provided to non-profit entities. Questions he said they want to address are how did the tax expenditure "get there"? What does it do? What does it cost? Who are the constituencies?

On a related subject, during the second week in March Ohio Congressman, Mike Turner, asked his colleagues to sign a letter petitioning for the continuation of historic preservation programming on the state and federal levels that rely on annual funding appropriated by Congress.

**OFCC Advisory Committee**

AIA Ohio's OFCC Advisory Committee met again April 1 to continue discussions with OFCC officials relative to the OFCC A/E Agreements as well as the continuing implementation of construction reform. If you have subjects you'd like included on future Advisory Committee agendas, please send them to AIA Ohio in writing.

AIA Ohio member architects participating in the April 1 OFCC meeting were: Hal Munger, FAIA, Toledo; Hank Reder, AIA, Cleveland; Lauren Della-Bella, Cincinnati and David Brehm, AIA, Columbus.

**Know your Ohio Legislators?**

AIA Ohio continues to update its directory of members who know their Representatives and Senators. Please e-mail AIAOhio@AssnOffices.com with the names of the Ohio legislators you know... and how you know them!

**AIA Ohio PAC: What Difference Does it Make?**

Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA

Each year, AIA Ohio, on behalf of the membership from across the state, works toward developing and implementing a legislative policy that addresses ongoing issues of practice as well as challenges to our businesses and the profession. These efforts, crafted by both staff and our lobbyist David Field, CAE, Hon. AIA, are designed to advance the standing of the profession while at the same time, protect us from ongoing concerns that would result in burdensome regulations or a negative impact to the profession. To help in these efforts, AIA Ohio established the AIA Ohio PAC, an associated political action committee, which focuses on the support of office holders or candidates throughout the state who understand our issues and share our concerns. The AIA Ohio PAC, like any successful program, is an ongoing effort that requires our attention and participation each year to address changes in the State Legislature. With elections occurring in two year cycles, the AIA Ohio PAC must continuously replenish funds in order to provide yearly support. As part of our 2015 effort, the AIA Ohio PAC has established goals for each component. This is not a contest, but rather an effort to help advance our legislative standings. With contributions to the PAC from members across the state, the AIA Ohio PAC can become an important tool for our advocacy team as we work to advance the needs of the profession. The AIA Ohio PAC is seeking a total of $14,120 from our members. As part of this effort, we are asking for member and chapter participation as well. As much as the contributions mean to the PAC, and as much as it becomes a tool for us to use, money is not our single
AIA Ohio Valley Region Convention
Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA

October is a great time of year. Changing leaves. College football. Baseball playoffs. And did we mention, the 2015 AIA Ohio Valley Region Convention in Columbus? Mark your calendar for October 11th-13th and be part of this year's greatest opportunity to come together and earn learning units, recognize award winning projects and experience unmatched networking events. Combine this with exhibits that showcase the products and services of dozens of vendors and sponsors and you will find the OVR Convention an event you can't miss.

Along with members from Kentucky and Indiana, this year's convention committee has been working for the past six months to create a conference that will be both fun and educational. Centered at the new Downtown Hilton across the street from the Columbus Convention Center, the convention will bring together more than 350 architects from across the region for three great days of programming. With 33 planned educational sessions plus keynote presentations by Chicago's Marshall Brown, National Design Award Winner Monica Ponce de Leon, AIA and Bryan MacKay-Lyons, FRAIC, Hon. FAIA, attendees will have a great opportunity to fulfill continuing education requirements. Add in an Ice Breaker at the High Line Car House, and an Excellence Awards Reception and presentation at The Joseph, this year's convention promises to be a great time. The convention is only six months away and we don't want you to miss it. Mark your calendar to make sure you are part of this year's AIA Ohio Valley Region Convention!

AIA Ohio Honor Awards- 2015

It's time to begin planning for the 2015 AIA Ohio Honor Awards! These four awards recognize Ohio's best and brightest architects and firms. Nominations can come from individuals or from local components. The four awards are:

AIA Ohio Gold Medal- the highest honor that AIA Ohio can bestow on an individual. It is conferred by the AIA Ohio Board of Directors in recognition of exemplary efforts and significant accomplishments.

AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm- the highest honor that AIA Ohio can bestow on an architectural firm.
**AIA Ohio Mentor Award** - the AIA Ohio Mentor Award will be given to an individual who has demonstrated the ability to assist and mentor in their community.

**AIA Ohio Public Service Award** - the AIA Ohio Public Service Award will be granted to an individual who has made a significant impact in their community through public service.

The deadline for each of these is June 19, 2015 - so there's plenty of time to put together a nomination packet. Consider an Ohio architect that you know - and plan to nominate them for an AIA Ohio Honor Award!

[Click here](#) for more information about the AIA Ohio Honor Awards, including submission criteria.

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**AIA Ohio CARES and the AIAS PASS ARE Scholarships are Available**

**Bruce Sekanick AIA, OAA**

While some members may be aware of the AIA Ohio CARES program, most are not. Started two years ago, the program was designed to provide funding for architectural graduates who need financial help to take the ARE. Based on a program first started at AIA Toledo, the AIA Ohio CARES program is intended to help graduates advance through the ARE. CARES, which is an acronym for Catalyst for Architectural Registration Exam Scholarship, is intended to provide funding for those taking and passing the exam. The grants are intended to encourage candidate to pursue registration. Associate members are eligible for grants of up to $200 and all others are eligible for a grant of $100. For more information, visit the grants webpage at [www.aiaohio.org/grant-opportunities](http://www.aiaohio.org/grant-opportunities).

The AIAS, in a similar move, has created the AIAS PASS. The PASS program was just recently approved, and is intended to also encourage young professionals to take the ARE. This program provides reimbursement of the cost of passed ARE divisions taken within one year of graduating. For more information on this program, visit the grant site at [www.aias.org/pass](http://www.aias.org/pass).

Firms or individuals wishing to donate to help fund the AIA Ohio CARES project or the AIAS PASS project should contact AIA Ohio or visit the PASS website.

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**AIA Ohio Foundation**

**Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA**

**Vice President, AIA Ohio Foundation**

The AIA Ohio Foundation, an independent 501(c) (3) charitable organization, continues its work again this year to provide scholarships to students in accredited architectural programs in Ohio. As part of the foundation's ongoing effort, the Board works to build and develop the organization's endowment to help provide continuous funding for these scholarships. Through its efforts, the Foundation has been able to provide to each architectural program scholarship grants of $3,000 annually to support students within their programs. Since 2003, the Foundation has distributed over $128,000 to more than 55 students from Kent State University, Miami University, The Ohio State University, and the University of Cincinnati.
The Foundation is proud of its ability, on behalf of AIA Ohio, to make these distributions each year to the universities and we plan to continue this effort for the foreseeable future. We do, however, need your help to continue this effort. In 2018, we anticipate Bowling Green State University to be added to this list of accredited programs. While this will provide Ohio with one more source of skilled graduates, the Foundation's ability to continue to fund all programs at the current level will be challenged. The AIA Ohio Foundation's primary funding source comes from a dues assessment that is part of your AIA Ohio dues. The other sources include personal contributions, investment income and contributions for the AIA Ohio Charles Marr Award. The Marr Award, which recognizes contributions to the Foundation on behalf of an individual or organization, helps provide ongoing funding to offset the annual scholarship distributions. To date, 29 individuals or firms have been recognized for their donations of $1,000 or more to the Foundation. The Charles Marr Award is a great way to recognize an employee, colleague or client while at the same time providing support for those who will soon be part of our profession. For more information on the Charles Marr Award and how you can participate, please contact Kate Brunswick, CAE, Hon. AIA, at kate@assnoffices.com.

National Focus:
AIA National Moves Forward on PR Campaign, Digital Transformation and Governance Repositioning.
Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA

AIA National continues the Institute's vision of "looking up" as the Board of Directors, the new Strategic Council and the management team implement changes and programs authorized by members and leadership last year. AIA President Elizabeth Chu Richter, FAIA, assumed the AIA presidency in December and the AIA Board and Strategic Council have worked through the first quarter with renewed energy and vision. The Council and Board met in New Orleans earlier this year to discuss and develop short and long-range plans to continue the repositioning effort. Geared toward providing information to the National Strategic Planning Committee, the meeting of the Council was crafted around addressing programs and trends that will affect membership and membership issues. The Council and Board will meet next month just prior to the National Convention in Atlanta.

The AIA public relations effort is continuing with the #ilook up campaign that was launched on December 12th of last year. The program was first released as a social media video and has over the last several months, been promoted on both cable news programs as well as PGA events. The next effort will see a transition to print ads, followed by two new videos that will be produced for the fall and into 2016. The PR campaign is part of an effort approved by the Board of Directors last year and will run through at least the end of 2016.

Work continues in a variety of other areas including the ongoing development and implementation of the Member Services Alignment plan and efforts to encourage and promote statewide meetings to address core services. Approximately half of the states are currently holding meetings to address core criteria and revenue sharing issues. The Digital Transformation effort is also under development and is being reviewed by a committee of volunteers and staff. The first phase is still expected to be implemented later this year. The concept behind this program is to provide a unified, personal site so that members can go to one location and see everything they need for state, local and national programs and information, as well as special interest or knowledge areas. Non-members and clients will be directed to a second site that will be designed to better address their specific needs and concerns.

The AIA is also addressing culture and practice issues through a variety of committees. As part of an initiative started more than a year ago, the AIA is continuing to focus on core areas of practice that will bring
about the highest level of service to members.

As noted, the AIA is in the middle of an effort to approve a new strategic plan. The committee has been at work in developing the new plan since late last year and the effort will continue through the summer with a presentation of the plan for approval of the Board scheduled for September. The committee is chaired by AIA Ohio Valley Regional Representative Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA. The region is also represented on the committee by CACE member Kate Brunswick CAE, Hon. AIA from AIA Ohio.

Earlier this year, four members of the region were selected to be elevated to Fellowship in the Institute. Two of these members are from Ohio, and both are members of AIA Columbus. They are George Acock, FAIA and Michael Cadwell, FAIA. We congratulate them on their advancement and the region will recognize them at a reception to be held on Friday, May 15th during the National Convention. AIA Ohio is well represented at the national level with a number of members serving on a variety of committees. These include:

* Eric Pempus, AIA, National Construction Documents Committee
* Chris Tadych Toddy, AIA, Small Firm Round Table
* Jud Kline, FAIA, Regional Representative College of Fellows, National Diversity Council and Culture Collective
* Gwen BerleKamp, CACE President-elect, National Knowledge Committee
* Lane Beougher, FAIA, AIA, National Construction Documents Committee
* Peter Bardwell, FAIA, Executive Committee AIA Academy of Architecture for Healthcare Advisory Group
* Ted Ferringer, Assoc. AIA, Regional Associate Director
* Kate Brunswick, CAE, Hon. AIA, National Strategic Planning Committee
* Bruce Sekanick, AIA, Chair National ArchiPAC Committee, Chair National Strategic Planning Committee, Chair Strategic Council Planning Committee, ex-officio member Strategic Council Steering Committee

As part of AIA’s effort to advance our advocacy program, the AIA asks that each member considers contributing to ArchiPAC, the national political action committee of the AIA. ArchiPAC funds are used to support national office holders and candidates who support legislative and advocacy issues embraced by the AIA. Your contribution to ArchiPAC helps the AIA advance goals that support membership nationwide. Please consider contributing at the National Convention, or by visiting the ArchiPAC website at: [www.archipac.org](http://www.archipac.org).

Finally, the AIA Ohio Valley Region will meet on April 24, 2015 in Columbus to discuss a wide variety of topics related to regional operations. These include the 2015 and 2016 budgets, regional bylaw changes, and the election of a new Strategic Council Representative as well as Regional Associate Director. Two candidates have stepped forward for the Strategic Council position. They are Terry Welker, AIA of AIA Dayton and Tim Hawk, FAIA, of AIA Columbus. One candidate has stepped forward for consideration for the position of Regional Associate Director. He is Craig Chamberlain, Assoc. AIA of Lexington, KY.

Anyone who would like to be considered for the positions, as a nomination from the floor for the Regional Associate Director or Regional Representative position, should contact either Kate Brunswick, CAE, Hon. AIA [kate@assnoffice.com](mailto:kate@assnoffice.com) or Bruce Sekanick AIA OAA [bruce@phillips-sekanick.com](mailto:bruce@phillips-sekanick.com).
Ohio Schools Competition
Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA

AIA Ohio, in cooperation with Ohio's four architectural programs, held the 3rd annual Ohio Schools Competition on Feb-21st and 22nd with nearly 40 teams registered to participate. The program for this year's charrette mirrored that used in previous years with the site for the project located on the campus of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. The program asked participants to create a pavilion to house the Architectural Congress of Ohio that would provide for the inter-institutional collaborations between the Ohio architectural programs. Each project was to include a variety of spaces including work spaces, resource areas, exhibition space, and other areas dedicated to circulation and building services.
The competition jury, which was composed of a mix of architectural program faculty from the various programs, along with architects representing both public and private practice, reviewed the projects as part of a Board meeting held at Miami University. The jury selected five projects that were found to address the intent of the program while at the same time adequately responding to the nuances of the site. The winning projects included:

**Discourse Unfolds** - First Place ($2,000)
**Flexible Ecologies** - Second Place ($1,000)
**New Ciam** - Third Place ($500)
**Cloaked Forest** - Honorable Mention
**Cellular Subtraction** - Honorable Mention

All winning submissions this year were from the University of Cincinnati. AIA Ohio, through the Ohio Schools Competition as well as visits to Ohio architectural programs on a rotating schedule, continues to try to enhance connection between the AIA and future members of the profession. The schools competition will continue its rotation throughout the state with next year's charrette planned for a site at The Ohio State University. The winning projects, along with team information, can be found on the AIA Ohio Facebook page as well as the [AIA Ohio website](https://www.aia.org). Congratulations to our winners and to all who participated!

Get Involved: The Architectural Billing Index
Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA

As the AIA continues efforts at all levels to become more focused and effective, there are a number of very successful services and programs provided by the AIA that merit members' attention. The Architectural Billing Index, or ABI, is one of these services. Through its Work-on-the-Boards Survey, the ABI uses current information on workloads and billings to develop an index that is used and referenced as an economic indicator by a variety of financial entities across the country. Based on the responses from participants, a score is developed that represents increasing or decreasing activity or demand in the architectural and construction segment of the economy. By combining the responses in each region as well as on a national basis, a score of below 50 or above 50 is determined. Numbers above 50 indicate a positive direction for the economy while a score falling below 50 denotes decreasing, or negative, economic conditions.

The ABI is one way that the AIA helps connect the work of architects and architecture with the broader business community. With participation of architecture firms in all areas of practice and all regions of the state, we help the AIA become a valued partner of the business community. To become part of the survey, firm partners or principals should contact the ABI staff by emailing [workontheboards@aia.org](mailto:workontheboards@aia.org).

15 Reasons Why My Firm Doesn't have a CA
Fifteen excuses we've heard why architecture firms don't have a Certificate of Authorization:

1. I didn't know firms needed a Firm Certificate of Authorization.
2. The Secretary of State didn't tell us we needed a Firm Certificate of Authorization.
3. My attorney didn't say we needed a Firm Certificate of Authorization.
4. NCARB didn't tell me we needed one.
5. I've been licensed since (insert date) and firms weren't required to get one back then.
6. I never saw the articles in the Board's newsletters because I didn't notify the Board that my email address had changed.
7. I didn't read the articles in the AIA Ohio or chapter newsletters.
8. I ignored the reminder on my license renewal notice.
9. I thought renewing my license took care of the firm, too.
10. I've never looked at the Board's website because I don't use the Internet.
11. I didn't know all firms registered with the Secretary of State, even sole proprietors, needed one.
12. I paid my AIA dues.
13. I thought my NCARB renewal took care of that.
14. Didn't the Board's jurisdiction ended when I passed the exam?
15. I didn't read the Board's laws or rules.

Firm renewals begin on May 1 and the fee is $100. The deadline to renew is June 30. What's your excuse?

For more information on the firm Certificate of Authorization, visit the Ohio Architects Board website at [http://www.arc.ohio.gov/FirmRegistration.aspx](http://www.arc.ohio.gov/FirmRegistration.aspx) or contact Chad Holland at 614-466-1476 or chad.holland@arla.state.oh.us.

KSU CAED Golf Outing

Bruce Sekanick, AIA, OAA

The Kent State University College of Architecture and Environmental Design (CAED) will be holding their 27th Annual Golf Outing, May 18, 2015 at the Westfield County Club in Westfield Center, Ohio. The CAED Classic is the largest golf outing at the university. In recent years, the outing has generated nearly $30,000 annually in support of student scholarships. The CAED Classic Outing plays both the North and South course of the Westfield Country Club. This is a fun way to enjoy a day out of the office with friends, colleagues and fellow alumni in support of one of Ohio's well-known and respected architecture programs. For more information, contact Wiley Runnestrand at wrunnest@kent.edu.

SEED Training: June 5-6

Social Economic Environmental Design Training
Early Bird Registration Closes Sunday, May 5!

Would you like to become SEED certified? Are you looking to earn AIA/CES 11.5 Hours and 11.0 GBCI CEUs?

The Design Center is partnering with the Public Interest Design Institute to provide SEED training to local designers and community leaders.

SEED (Social Economic Environmental Design) is a 2-day training and certification on methods of how design can address the critical issues faced by communities. SEED goes beyond green design with a "triple bottom line" approach that includes the social and economic, as well as the environmental.

Not only is this event great value for a substantial amount of continuing education units, it is an important opportunity to learn about the growing public interest design movement! AIA, GBA, and SEED members are eligible for a registration discount. A limited number of scholarships are available for students and non-profit organizations. Please email Thor Erickson for more information about scholarship opportunities.

Friday and Saturday, June 5th and 6th
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM - Point Park University, Downtown

Click here for more information and to register.

CALL FOR ENTRIES: 2015 AIA DESIGN FOR AGING REVIEW 13 AWARDS
Submission Deadline: Before 5PM ET, May 29, 2015

The Design for Aging Review program, a joint effort of the AIA and LeadingAge, includes a juried exhibition, a companion book, and education programs. The program encompasses a broad view of facilities designed for senior citizens, including nursing homes, dementia care, assisted living, and continuing care retirement communities.

The Design for Aging Review seeks not only to demonstrate architectural design trends and recognize excellence but also to serve as a reference for providers, developers, users, advocates, architects, and other design professionals in this growing market. Since the competition began in 1992, more than 300 facilities, domestic and international, have participated in the review.

Eligibility
All entries must meet the following requirements for each of the entry categories:

- Open to AIA Members and non-members based in the United States or Internationally.
- Projects submitted by jury members or by the organizations they represent, and projects that included jury members on their team, will be disqualified.
- All entries must receive permissions from owners and other team members and acknowledge that permission as part of the submission. Designers and providers should collaborate on completing the form, as there likely are some questions better answered by one group or the other.
- Projects may only be submitted once, under one category (i.e. not Built and Small Projects, or Not Built and Small Projects). If a project can be classified under more than one category, applicants are encouraged to choose the one they think best applies to their project.

**Submission Categories**

- Built Projects
- Not Built Projects
- Small Project Built or Not Built ($3-million construction cost or less) Projects

**Entry Fees**

Below is the list of the non-refundable submission entry fees:

- **First Entry or Built, Not Built:** $750.00 for each entry
- **Additional Project(s) or Small Project under $3 million:** $500.00 for each entry

**Recognition**

A jury of architects and care providers for the aging will select the projects to be published and exhibited. Awards of Merit will be awarded to projects that represent advanced design concepts, research and solutions sensitive to the needs of an aging population. Special Recognition will be granted to projects that, while not Awards of Merit, display special features or innovations that warrant acknowledgement as exemplary, trend setting or innovative. Additionally, the jury may select projects for publication that offer distinction and notable competency.

Award of Merit and Special Recognition projects will be exhibited at the LeadingAge annual meetings and AIA national conventions. Award of Merit and Special Recognition recipients and other selected projects may also be included in presentations made by the AIA Design for Aging Knowledge Community at other venues.

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**AIA Ohio**

A Society of the American Institute of Architects

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This information is provided exclusively for AIA Ohio members.

Call 614-221-0338 or send e-mail to aiaohio@assnoffices.com

Visit us on the web at www.aiaohio.org