

AIA Ohio

ArchiTypes
2020 Spring



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President's Message



Mary Glowacki, AIA

WOW! What a first few months we have had so far this year! I hope that this message finds each of you well and surviving the COVID-19 pandemic.

To keep you updated on what has been going on at the state level and around the state, we have started a task group for COVID-19. Thanks to Tim Hawk, FAIA for setting this in motion, and

to Sam Marcum, AIA and Rick Posey, AIA, our state disaster assistance co-chairs, for keeping it in motion. Kate Brunswick, Hon, AIA, has been doing a fantastic job keeping our website up to date with resources, which has also been a link on the AIA National website! Way to go team!!

Most of our time has been spent dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. We have gotten lists together for healthcare architects and consultants across the state of Ohio. In addition to the resources that have been coming out from AIA National and have been linked to our website, we are trying to gain momentum for future activities for our members.

The state and local component executive directors have been “meeting” and they have decided that it makes more financial sense for AIA Ohio to buy a Zoom Business account and to split it with the local components. Therefore, each component can schedule their own Zoom meetings. Now, local components educational offerings will be available statewide, since geography will not prevent anyone from attending. Each week we are posting the events, and you can participate in any event offered, throughout the entire state.

Most components have held their own town hall event where members have been asked to talk about or ask questions about how the COVID-19 outbreak

is affecting their business. In addition, AIA Ohio hosted a town hall event on April 2, 2020. We had about 133 members participate in the Zoom meeting. This was held after the local components held theirs, so that chapters could learn from one another how things were working around the state.

AIA National has communicated with all components that they were extending the lapsed deadline for 2020 AIA Membership until April 28, 2020. National has been reaching out to those members who have not renewed their membership to work with them in continuing their membership. Local components are also working on contacting those members. If you have not renewed your 2020 membership, please do so as soon as possible.

AIA National has created a new AIA Task Force, a national COVID-19 project database of best practices from state to state. The COVID-19 ArchMap is being used to identify solutions for how architects can help or are helping communities adapt hospitals and related facilities to support mobilization efforts for COVID-19 treatment. Architects, designers, engineers and facility owners are asked to contribute current, in progress or completed COVID-19 projects.

May 13 – 16, 2020, Los Angeles will not be hosting the 2020 AIA Conference on Architecture at this time. National has decided to cancel the conference for 2020. Next year it will be in Philadelphia June 17 – 19.

Statewide, we are still uncertain as to the future of the 2020 Convention. We will keep you posted on what is happening with that.

Remember, AIA Ohio is here to help you in whatever ways we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any needs or concerns that we can address during these trying times. Stay safe and healthy!



Government Affairs Report



Luther Liggett

The Ohio General Assembly is shut down consistent with Governor DeWine's stay-at-home order. Senators are pressuring the Governor to lift the order, so as to allow the economy to re-build. But the political risk of a recurrence, particularly of a surge in deaths, keeps the Governor on a cautious path.

Ohio's Constitution requires the legislature to pass the capital appropriation for the next two years by June 30, 2020. As even a re-appropriation bill (existing unspent funds renewed) is not introduced, it

appears impossible to accomplish new legislation for new funding of new construction projects for the next two years.

The General Assembly did pass, and the Governor signed, emergency legislation for the pandemic in House Bill 197. The amendments are well-summarized in the Legislative Services Commission's summary.

Given business shutdowns and resulting tax revenue declines, the House Speaker expects a re-writing of the operating budget to reduce state government expenses while considering economic stimulus legislation, such as Infrastructure Bonds.

The Ohio Senate is proposing a voting session to pass 'emergency' legislation. It is unclear what that includes, whether limited to the health issues, or a 'Christmas tree' bill. Voting is difficult due to social distancing, and public hearings are impossible.

Therefore, at most we expect legislative activity through June, when legislators return to their districts for re-election campaigns.

After the November election, we may see a very active "lame duck" session.

Interior Design Registration Legislation:

With the Statehouse shut down, it is unlikely that the Interior Design legislation will see any movement for the remainder of this year.

Representative George Lang (R, West Chester) introduced House Bill 402, to create an optional Certificate for Interior Designers. Unlike prior versions, this legislation proposes an exception to the Architect's Seal Law for plans submitted to obtain a Building Permit.

The bill would define "interior design" and "construction projects" to include certification of designs involving the commercial building and fire codes, for which interior designers are not trained nor tested.

AIA Ohio immediately sent a letter of opposition to the sponsor and all members of the House State and Local Government Committee, where the legislation is assigned. Then, we met with the Ohio Building Officials Association, which also sent their objections to Committee members. We are meeting with other interested parties, and expect their opposition as well.

Another obstacle to the bill will be the new Licensing Board Sunset Law, which prohibits new licenses, Revised Code section 103.26. A Legislative Service Commission report must support the need for an Interior Design license based on the same criteria as considered for license board renewal, generally to protect the public safety and welfare without being anti-competitive.



Payment Assurance Legislation (PAL):

Senate Bill 136, the Payment Assurance Legislation for architects, landscape architects, engineers, and surveyors, awaits the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee schedule for a final hearing for a vote to send it to the Senate Floor and then the House for consideration. We are aware of no opposition or concern.

Other Legislation:

Also pending in the Ohio General Assembly are:

- **House Bill 159:** Endorsed by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) to require public contract indemnification clauses to be insurable for design professionals. The bill is pending third hearing in the House Civil Justice Committee. We are unaware of any opposition.
- **House Bill 263, Occupational Licensing – Criminal Convictions:** To revise the initial occupational licensing restrictions applicable to individuals convicted of criminal offenses, consistent with court case precedent. The bill awaits a fifth hearing in the House Commerce & Labor Committee.
- **House Bill 432, Senate Bill 246 – Unilateral “Reciprocity”:** To require Ohio licensing agencies to issue an Ohio license to out-of-state professionals holding a similar license in any other state. The bills would not require that those other states recognize Ohio’s license.

Licensing Board Sunset Law:

Revised Code section 101.62 requires that,

An occupational licensing board ... shall expire at the end of the thirtieth day of June of the following year after the board was



triggered to expire. *** An occupational licensing board may be renewed by enactment of a law that continues the statutes creating, empowering, governing, or regulating the board.

The legislature must review one-third of all licensure boards and agencies each year, and then every five years thereafter. The Architects’-Landscape Architects’ Boards are included in the expiration list for its licensing functions.

The Speaker of the House designated the House State and Local Government Committee to review one third all other licensing boards in 2019. A Senate committee is to review an additional third. It is unclear what order or which boards will be included. Given the Statehouse shutdown, it is likely that all will be deferred to 2021.



AIA Ohio 2020 Awards Program

Although nothing feels ‘normal’ these days, one thing you can count on is AIA Ohio will set deadlines and architects will procrastinate! We don’t know exactly what AIA Ohio’s 2020 Awards Program will ultimately look like, but as we work to figure that out, pay attention, because deadlines are approaching.

2020 AIA Ohio Honor Awards

There are five [AIA Ohio Honor Awards](#) which recognize Ohio’s best and brightest architects and firms. Nominations can come from individuals or from local components. The five 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.

****NEW** AIA Ohio Emerging Professionals Award** – the AIA Ohio Emerging Professional Award identifies and promotes exceptional accomplishments of Associate Members and Young Architect Members and their continuing development within the profession.

The deadline for each of these is June 12, 2020 – so there’s still time to put together a nomination packet. Consider an outstanding Ohio architect that you know – and plan to nominate them for an AIA Ohio Honor Award! Submissions can be made online, at www.aiaohio.org. Click on Design Matters in the navigation bar for Awards information.

Submit

Deadline
June 12, 2020



Additionally, the AIA Ohio Design awards portal is open for submissions. The **AIA Ohio Design Awards Program** promotes those projects that have distinguished themselves, through attention to high quality design, performance, and commitment to AIA's 10 principles of livable communities. These awards recognize some of the best of Ohio Architecture. Projects must be submitted by July 1, 2020 to be eligible.

Submit

Deadline
July 1, 2020

Opportunity for Change

Bruce Sekanick, FAIA

No one can claim to know where either the economy, or the profession will be as we emerge, at some point, from this pandemic. Each of us has been challenged in one way or another, with change that has been thrust upon us. While we have had to adjust over a short period of time to a new way of working, seldom have we been given the opportunity to completely rethink how we design projects, run our businesses, and advance the profession. Some firms were prepared to work remotely a little better than others. And some, who were created as virtual firms, found it to be surprisingly more difficult when an unexpected variable, like homeschooling, is thrown into the mix. Over the past four plus weeks, we have each had a chance to experience challenges and have realized opportunities to change the way we practice.

Technology

While most of us have integrated our work with some degree of either VPN or cloud access, some of us have also experienced the delays with the uploading or downloading of complex files over residential internet connections and slower speeds. This is especially true as entire families are accessing the internet at the same time.

While laptops were a great investment prior to the work from home directive, many have found that portable monitors would have been an equally important investment. I guess many of us did not expect to be working all day, every day from home and to be honest, a 14" screen is a little hard on the eyes after three or four hours. Even if you do most of your communication via your phone, a bigger screen is never a bad thing.

Finally, notetaking. I am the posterchild of post-it notes. Writing everything down and knowing exactly where the note is when I need it is part of my life. Unfortunately, old habits don't work well in the world of electronic communications. While reminders and calendars and notifications all play a role in how we do what we do, access to EVERYTHING has become more important than ever. A well organized, cloud-based or server-based system is important, but only if you can easily access what you have saved. And, only if everything that is received is stored in a way that is accessible. Those "personal" file folders on the edge of the desk no longer serve the purpose that they did four weeks ago. Paper e-tablets may end up meeting the needs that up to now, they have been missing.

Schedules, Planning and Habits

Most of us are creatures of habit, either because of our personality or something that is driven by our firm's culture. We do the same things the same way all of the time. Change would seem to be a bad thing. The pandemic has challenged many of us, but has also allowed us to change our perspective. While we normally would spend much of our work hours in the office, I would generally know who from the staff was around and when – even with flexible hours. Today, we now work when we are needed, when we have scheduled a call, or maybe when everyone else has gone to bed. Instead of waking up at 3:30 am, getting to the office at 5:30 am, and then getting home at 6:30 pm, I have embraced flexibility. From cycling at mid-afternoon to painting one of the rooms mid-morning, I've found that flexibility is just not something we provide for our staff, but rather something that we all need.



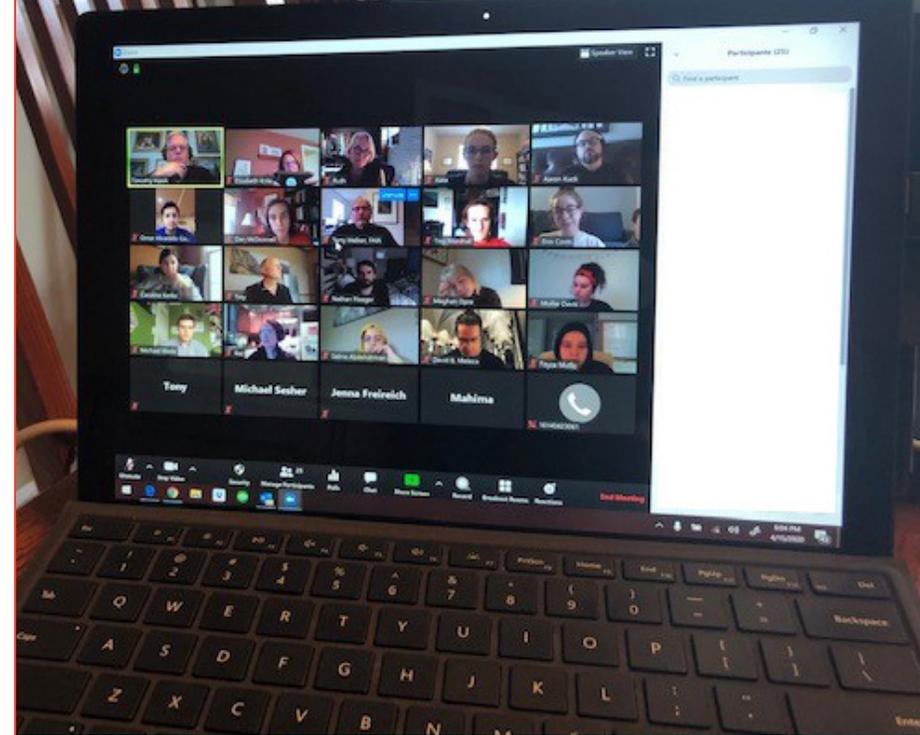
Opportunity for Change continued

I have also discovered that you should not feel guilty for only working 12 or 13 hours. We know that the industry will change because of what we are now experiencing, but it is only a guess as to how. While having put in the time each day to answer questions on projects and out-reach to clients, I have found that the flexibility has provided me with new energy and a drive to accomplish more. The old adage, work smarter, not harder is very applicable.

People

Of all the changes that have taken place around us, the hardest one for me is how we work with people. When you spend half of your time in meetings, on calls and working side by side with others, a sudden change like what we are now experiencing is, let's say disheartening. As an organization, we bring people together. Our conventions have always focused at least one part of our programming on collegiality within the profession. Today, much of that is missing. While Zoom is a great tool, it cannot make up for the way we have led our lives over a large part of our career. Emails and phone calls from clients and contractors are great (well, usually), but they don't make up for the one-on-one interaction. Architecture is about interpersonal communication. While we will see many areas of what we do change in significant ways because of the pandemic, I hope this is not something that we lose.

Each of us is experiencing something new. For those new to the profession it is, I'm sure, unnerving and somewhat scary. For those who have been around a while, I can assure you it is the same. But in either case, we have real opportunities that will allow us to change the profession for the better. We'll get through this and we will work in new ways that until now, we never felt necessary or possible. And each of us will have a better appreciation of architecture as a profession and our friends and colleagues that makes what we do together, so very special.



On April 15, AIA Columbus and AIAS hosted a virtual meeting between AIA Columbus Fellows and twenty architecture students from the Knowlton School of Architecture at The Ohio State University. The meeting comes at a time when students are unsure about their future in the architecture profession during the coronavirus pandemic. Six fellows, Tim Hawk, FAIA, Peter Bardwell, FAIA, Troy Sherrard, FAIA, Ruth Gless, FAIA, Terry Welker, FAIA, and David Meleca, FAIA, shared their experiences throughout their career and encouraged students that the architecture profession is like a marathon and this situation is merely a blip in their long career as an architect.



Returning to Work

Ohio's Stay-at-Home order is (at the time of this writing) in effect for most businesses. It seems likely that after the order is lifted, returning to work will look different than it did before the order was put in place. Below are some factors that firms of all sizes may want to consider when determining how to re-open offices for employees, as well as when advising clients how they might reopen their spaces.

External environmental considerations include:

- Is the state order completely lifted?
- Is there a county or local ordinance in place regarding social distancing enforcement?
- Is testing available?
- What is the transmission rate?

Operating environmental concerns include:

- Do you have high risk employees (older and/or underlying health considerations)?
- Is your office conducive to social distancing?
- Do you have PPE available for employees?

Every business will have to weigh individual considerations for their employees. Additional issues may come into play, like whether or not employees find themselves with young children at home and no options for school/camps/childcare during the day.

Do you have a plan for opening your office that might help other firms? Send your thoughts to aiaohio@assnoffices.com, and we'll compile and distribute them as a resource to others.

EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT	County / state in Lock Down Social distancing enforced Low or intermittent testing Transmission rate > 1	100% WFH	100% WFH	100% WFH
	Private companies allowed to open under conditions Social distancing monitored Confidence in testing rate Transmission rate < 1	50% WFH	70% WFH	100% WFH
	Schools open Private companies allowed to open High level of testing Transmission rate < 0.5	30% WFH	50% WFH	70% WFH
	Very low number of High Risk employees Office conducive to social distancing Sustained availability of protective equipment	Some High Risk employees Office is difficult to enforce social distancing Only some availability of protective equipment	Higher number of High Risk employees Desk sharing - open plan - not able to enforce social distancing Limited availability of protective equipment	
OPERATING ENVIRONMENT				





AIA Ohio Foundation Reinforces Support in Time of Social Distancing

Bruce Sekanick, FAIA

Over the past month, projects that were once a sure thing are now just a hope. Firm leaders and staff alike are negotiating their way through new territory as “work-at-home” and “social distancing” are now part of our daily lives. While most of us continue to advance projects and develop new leads, students in Ohio’s five accredited architectural programs face an even more uncertain future. Forced to leave campus more than a month ago, some new grads look toward new full-time positions while others have found offers of employment rescinded. For undergrads, the availability of summer internships has significantly tightened as firms try to understand the wishes and needs of their clients. Focusing on the future of the profession, the AIA Ohio Foundation has stepped forward to continue our support of students, while we work to find new ways to connect both students and new grads with the profession.

The coronavirus pandemic has had an impact on everyone. The AIA Ohio Foundation, and its investments, are no exception. With students away from campus and most university award programs being somewhat minimized this year, it would have been easy to take a step back and continue the AIA Ohio Foundation scholarship program next year, when things were back to some version of normal. The Trustees of the Foundation, in a meeting this past month, reaffirmed not only the need to advance scholarships this year, but to also provide students with a platform on which they can engage members of the profession, the schools and AIA.

This year, the AIA Ohio Foundation will fund for the first time, five accredited architectural programs in Ohio. As announced earlier this year, we are pleased to welcome Bowling Green State University as an accredited program and believe their graduates will serve our firms and the profession well. As we work with the schools

in support of students, we also plan to highlight each of our scholarship recipients through AIA Ohio social media. These scholarships mean a lot to both the schools and students, and we look forward to, in a small way, making a difference.

Scholarships, however, are only a small part of what we plan to do. The Foundation is currently talking with the presidents of each of the Ohio AIAS chapters and will soon bring together the student leadership of all five schools for a discussion of needs, interests, and concerns of those seeking to enter the profession. Through this conversation, we will work with each school to provide students the opportunity to participate in discussions, understand the needs of firms, and ask questions of AIA members. It is our hope that as we learn the full impact of the pandemic, we can find a way to allow social distancing bring students and the profession closer together.

While we do not know what the fall will bring for many universities and programs, the AIA Ohio Foundation remains committed to the AIAS chapters. We believe that as an organization that looks outward in the support of public awareness and students, we can continue to bring together students and those in practice. The Foundation Board of Trustees will meet again this summer to plan our support of the AIAS chapters for the 2020/2021 Academic Year. While somewhat limited by the after effects of the coronavirus pandemic, we believe that now is not the time for us to back down, but rather, take the lead.

The AIA Ohio Foundation is grateful to all the members of AIA Ohio for your support. It is through your backing that we can continue our efforts. The Board would also like to express our appreciation to the Emeritus Members from throughout the state who late last year and earlier this year, came together to provide funding that will help us fulfill our goals. Your financial assistance is greatly appreciated.

While the environment around us may change, the need for support of the profession and students has only grown stronger. The AIA Ohio Foundation looks to meet those needs and allow this generation of students to become our next generation of leaders.





Small Firm Exchange (SFx)

An AIA National Member Group

Regional Representative Report / 2020 Q1

Christopher Toddy, AIA

SFx Mission & Objectives

Advancing the mutual interests of architects practicing in small firms.

- Advocate for small firms within the AIA and in outside organizations and agencies
- Promote leadership in small firm professional development and practice
- Facilitate and support the local component round tables and small firm networks

Especially at this time, let us know how AIA & AIA SFx can support your smaller architectural firm. We will do our best.

Influence – Promoting the Value of Architects

SFx is advocating for small firm recognition at local and regional design awards.

- [Use the AIA Small Project awards categories](#) to advocate for visibility at your local chapters.

Blue links below to advocate the value of Architects within your community and for sustainability:

- [Advocate the value of Architects within your community!](#)
- [Become part of the solution by engaging in your community!](#)
- [Create resiliency in projects and promote thoughtful use of resources!](#)
- [Use the AIA Framework for Design Excellence in project goals!](#)

We want to hear from you! If you have small firm advocacy issues, reach out to your SFx regional representative listed above!

The AIA National Conference on Architecture – Small-Firm Relevance

With A'20 in Los Angeles being canceled, the SFx Conference Workgroup is focused on local webinars, state conferences (not yet canceled), and having a relevant presence at A'21 in Philadelphia. For A'21, SFx is planning an Open Forum, a Happy Hour at a small firm close to the convention (i.e., Digsau), Tours, and other small-firm relevant programming. Plan on joining us in Philadelphia! Submit your own CEU session proposal and become a CEU session peer reviewer.

SFx representatives can be a speaker at your next state or regional conference; let us know. This speaker can share resources that especially address the needs of 75% of firms.

Small-Firm Practice Resources

This Workgroup is working with AIA Trust to review AIA small firm benefits, combing AIA resources to place best practices on our SFx website, and organizing small firm practice webinars. Stay tuned for more information.

SFx [Lien Rights](#) Awareness Initiative: with the help of state components and their local attorneys, SFx offers customized lien rights awareness presentations for webinar or conference, for the benefit of architects within your state.

The [Small Firm Compensation Report](#) is out!

Visit AIAU for its new Small Firm Series! We have worked with AIAU to collect its top small firm continuing education sessions into one easy location on their website. Check it out!

Use this time to re-create your business plan using the SFx [Business Plan Beta Template for Small Architectural Firms](#).

The results of the SFx / SPP / CRAN survey can be found here: [Business Models for Small Architectural Firms](#).

Here is a resource of [Videos](#) to educate your clients – link via your own website.

Small-Firm Outreach & Communication

Follow SFx on [Flipboard](#), for small firm relevant articles! Share your own Small Firm Practice articles.

Stories about small firm architects: at A'18 and A'19, SFx conducted a number of interviews of small firm architects from around the country and posted them on [Spotify](#), and [YouTube](#) – Click here to hear their stories and sign-up to tell us yours. Instagram - Our Instagram @ AIA_SFEX account highlights the work of small firms; send us your work.

Follow us using the links above. Sign up for our small-firm relevant newsletter.

2020 Transition

AIA SFx 2020 Chair Michael Lejong, AIA started his year. SFx had a successful Annual Retreat in Northwest Arkansas. For 2020 SFx Regional Representatives, see the [Small Firm Exchange Roster at the SFx Website](#). AIA SFx 2019 Chair Christopher Toddy thanks all who advocate for small firms! The SFx ExCom has accepted Bruce Sekanick FAIA's nomination to represent the Ohio Valley Region on the AIA SFx 2021-2023 Leadership Team, replacing Christopher Toddy, AIA at the end of the year.

