ED Report

As we wrap up the first half of the year and move into the second half of 2019, I can’t help but think that this year is running at a faster pace than usual: in addition to our programs, which we keep enhancing to further support members, the larger community of A+D and the whole community of Los Angeles, we are pushing the 2020 AIA Conference (A’20) taking place in Los Angeles and are now working with 9 task forces, almost 100 task force members, the Executive Steering Committee lead by Martha Welborne, FAIA, Mike Enomoto, FAIA, and Scott Hunter, FAIA, and an advisory group composed of AIA LA Past presidents and a selected group of members.

Highlights of these last 2 months include:

- Encompass, our annual symposium to discuss issues of diversity and inclusivity
- Purposeful, produced by the Architecture in Healthcare committee and the chapter’s staff, a one-day charrette to accelerate the conversation around more responsive facilities
- 2x8: Exchange which opened on May 8 at the Helm’s Bakery and awarded students’ projects from 13 schools of architecture with a total of $13,500 in scholarships
- The 2019 Residential Architecture Awards ceremony, hosted by Minotti on April 30, attended by over 120 professionals and a great opportunity to further the conversation around residential projects including low income housing and ADU’s
- The 2019 Restaurant Design Awards which was juried on May 17 and whose winners will be announced in June at the ROW in DTLA in conjunction with LA Design Festival
- The 4th Design for Dignity symposium, revolving around issues of homelessness and housing challenges and the positive role that architects can play in this unfortunate crisis
- Our next 6 months tours series (in the works), to celebrate the fantastic design of our members
- Small Firms 101, a series of discussions ranging from best practice to financial management, PR, HR, legal issues, procurement, networking etc. to provide small firms with the tools to be successful

In addition, I am working with the board’s Long Range task force to develop a vision for the chapter in the next 5 to 10 years – how can we best serve the profession and our members, how can we increase relevance, how can we make sure everybody understands the importance of architecture as a catalyst for a better environment and life conditions, how can we educate our children to good design, stimulate their imagination, allow them to develop the dream of becoming architects and, at the same time, educate the communities to the positive impact of the profession? Will we need a “vessel” to realize our vision? If so, what would this vessel be?

Thankfully, there is always space for levity at AIA|LA and we are preparing to go to Las Vegas for the AIA national conference and gamble on our chances to organize the most successful AIA National conference yet next year, in our beautiful City of Angels.

Associate Director Report

ANNUAL SPONSORSHIPS

In April I completed my final push to remind Board Members of their collective pledge at the January retreat to achieve 100% participation of board support for 2019 Annual Sponsorship. Thank you to all who participated and to those who are still considering outreach by way of the tools shared during our
1/1 conversations on “give/get” for support from vendors and industry colleagues. While the Board has fallen short of its commitment to be fully recognized as 2019 Annual Sponsors, the focus will now be shifted toward making this opportunity accessible to the ability of our smaller member firms who desire visibility and recognition of Annual Sponsorship but are priced out by our current levels. In addition, with National staff, I’ve begun conversations to replicate a program that would provide value to connecting specifiers with vendor firms eager to connect with our membership. Individuals at local large firms have also been consulted to determine what value this program could potentially bring. My plan is to launch both of these new angles of approach by June.

KIDS DRAW ARCHITECTURE

Another successful program was held, partnering again with the A+D Museum in April. Over 20 children and their parents along with six architecture students spent the morning exploring and becoming inspired by the museum’s exhibitions prior to creating their own chalk representations of favorite buildings and those imagined. We were so fortunate to have the exhibition artist Sarah Jones onsite to lead attendees through her exhibition of “Tangle” a truly immersive work that the children found great pleasure in walking through and becoming an interactive part of. All children received as a gift the book “Pop Architecture: Kanner Architects, Los Angeles” by Frances Anderton.

This program presents opportunities to engage a broad range of supporters because of the demographic, the subject matter and the educational offerings for young students. Specifically, further connecting with local markets to provide healthy snacks for the day; engaging student architects to gain experience working with young children (ages 6–11); and creating a curriculum to engage youth at this early age to a career in design are key areas that can draw interest in creating a more solid program that sponsors may find value in supporting – for just a day or for a series.

The Kids Draw Architecture Day has also triggered interest in schools who are eager to work with AIA|LA to develop a site-specific curriculum for individual schools to present at their respective schools. LAUSD has expressed interest in making this a reality and I am hopeful with the launch of the Chapter’s Education Committee/Taskforce leadership can help further provide guidance on how to make this a strong program for the school district.

Our next dates for KDA with the A+D Museum are in June, August, and October. And while we have found incredible value and support through our partnership with A+D Museum the program itself lends itself well to re-creating with other venues and interested entities in Los Angeles.

CHAPTER WORK

While the Interior Architecture Committee has yet to present their first program for the year, leadership are in touch regularly and have compiled a series of guest lectures, events, and tours that require solid dates to confirm. Committee leadership expect to have dates ready in time to officially launch their 2019 season during this summer.

Continuing to support the Executive Director by assisting and taking on delegated assignments which support his role in day to day office activity; training new staff and guidance on projects with current staff; following up on communications with potential partners and interested entities; his ongoing leadership of the 2x8 Committee; and taking on identified roles with the upcoming Design Awards (sponsorships) and A’20 (sponsorships, tours, and updating the African American Buildings/Projects Map from 2016).
Looking forward to our upcoming Restaurant Design Awards and Ceremony. This year we have secured a jury with recognized credibility in publishing, architecture design and the food and restaurant business. Garrett Snyder, Food Editor for Los Angeles Magazine, Hans Rockenwagner, Owner of Rockenwagner Bakeries/Cafes and Ezequiel Farça, CEO/Founder of EZEQUIEL FARCA and a 2018 AIA|LA Restaurant Design Award Recipient make up this year’s esteemed jury. This year the RDA will be part of the larger LA Design Festival that will be taking place in June and throughout the Arts District of DTLA.

**Government & Public Affairs –**

**AIA|LA Legislative Day at City Hall**
Save the date. Our 2019 AIA|LA Legislative Day at City Hall will be scheduled for Friday, October 11th. As we begin collecting ideas for the annual advocacy platform, all of the AIA|LA committees are encouraged to each develop at least one issue brief. We especially are encouraging issue briefs from the Urban Design Committee, the Committee on Environment and the Professional Practice Committee.

**Announcing the AIA|LA & LAUSD Student Internship Program**
The AIA Los Angeles and the LAUSD Linked Learning CTE team, encourages your firm to commit to hiring a high school student intern this summer.

To make this pledge, please complete the form by Friday, May 17th.

We are aiming to have 20+ architecture firms commit to offering internships this summer to LAUSD high-school students.

Generally, a summer internship is for 120 hours total over a 3- or 4-week timeframe. Therefore, students work for 3 weeks at 40 hours a week or 4 weeks at 30 hours a week. However, the distribution of these hours is at the discretion of the employer in discussions with the student. The path to hiring a student intern in an engineering or architecture pathway is quite simple – however, if you have any questions please reach out to either Will Wright at AIA|LA or Esther Soliman at LAUSD (contact info below):

Once you sign up on the form, a representative from LAUSD will reach out to walk you through the step-by-step process.

**LAUSD Curriculum**
In our attempt to encourage more K-12 students to pursue careers in architecture, we are conducting a series of workshops with LAUSD.

Our next workshop is scheduled for Thursday, May 30th. We will be working in tandem with the LAUSD’s Linked Learning Career Technical Education team to review their current curriculum and offer suggestions for how to make some of the courses more aspirational, integral to the environment and holistic. We’ve noticed that some of the earlier classes available to students may actually be out-dated, old-fashioned or less ‘exciting’ than will be helpful to attract the initial interest of students.

In groups we will review curriculum to make the following determinations:

- Which courses should be removed?
- Which courses need revision?
- Are the levels of courses correct and if not what should they be?
- What are the best sequences of courses?
Invest in America Act

On April 10, AIA National helped spearhead the introduction of bipartisan federal legislation that would create project opportunities for architecture firms by increasing state and local leaders’ ability to attract much-needed global investment to improve buildings and infrastructure in their cities and towns. Known as the Invest in America Act, HR 2210, this bill would create numerous opportunities for architects, their firms, and the communities they serve by creating jobs and spurring new projects.

Help requested: AIA National is doing a big push to get as many Democrat and Republican co-sponsors on the Invest in America Act by June 8. This will help us prove it has support to potentially be attached to a bipartisan infrastructure bill. Therefore, please reach out to your congressional representatives and encourage them to support the HR 2210.

AIA Los Angeles is also communicating this request to everyone on our newsletter mailing list.

Key Advocacy Engagements, Roundtables and Forums

On May 14th, the Urban Design Committee convenes a roundtable to review the updated proposal for the Citywide Design Guidelines. The roundtable serves as a forum to collect feedback and to organize a coordinated response on behalf of the chapter so that we’re able to deliver comments to the Department of City Planning in advance of their May 24th deadline. You are also encouraged to review the guidelines and provide ‘mark-ups’ directly to their draft document via their online outreach portal.

On May 15th, the Committee on the Environment convenes a roundtable to review the “OUR COUNTY: Sustainability Plan”. This meeting will also serve as a chance to review the draft plan, collect comments and collate a coordinated response on behalf of the Chapter to the County of Los Angeles Chief Officer of Sustainability prior to their May 24th deadline, as well. Board members are invited to review the County’s discussion draft and provide comments directly to the County of LA’s Chief Sustainability Office via their online outreach portal.

On May 21st, the Political Outreach Committee convenes a panel discussion about the impediments to delivering housing more quickly. The objective will be to create an inventory of some of the most common hindrances (whether building code interpretations, parking regulations, community resistance, etc) and then analyze whether or not the AIA|LA can prepare a white-paper or an advocacy platform to help remove or reduce those common barriers.

Guest speakers for this panel discussion include:
Alfred Fraijo Jr. – Partner, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
Donna Shen Tripp – Vice President, Craig Lawson & Co., LLC

The Purple Line Transit Neighborhood Plan

Although we originally had plans to coordinate a roundtable to discuss the Purple Line TNP, the Department of City Planning has kindly requested for us to wait until later in the year until this Autumn to coordinate this discussion.

We will be looking to share ideas with the City and with the greater Wilshire Blvd. community about how to create a balanced approach to creating a plan that facilitates the evolving needs of the region, as well as, the immediate concerns of the neighborhoods that will be impacted by the changes an extended subway system will bring.
Procurement Reform

As reported during our March 26th Board Meeting, as an extension to our 2018 Advocacy Platform, AIA|LA issued a letter to Councilmember Paul Krekorian and the Ad Hoc On Comprehensive Job Creation Plan Committee to support for the “Compete4LA” procurement platform initiative and feasibility study, as authored by BiP Solutions and the Los Angeles Business Council Institute (LABCI).

Small business inclusion is a fundamental tenet to ensure equitable access to the marketplace, as well as, a key mechanism to obtain best-value results afforded by ensuring greater diversity on the contracting teams delivering the professional services.

The “Compete4LA” procurement platform initiative, once fully executed, will create a regional procurement portal jointly operated by the public and private sectors. Establishing this regional marketplace, and streamlining the procurement process by centralizing all of the various credentials and compliance factors, will help small businesses obtain greater access to the wealth of contracting opportunities that will emerge over the course of the next several years.

Contracting opportunities provided by the funding sources of County of LA measures R, M, H, W, A, statewide bond issuances for LACCD, LAUSD and City of LA’s measure HHH, the billion-dollar sidewalk repair program, investments in the Los Angeles River as well as, other key capital improvements can all be serviced by this regional procurement platform.

Additionally, with major significant events set to transform the region (such as the 2020 MLB All Star Game, 2022 Super Bowl, 2023 College Football Playoffs, 2026 World Cup, 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games), a regional procurement platform will also allow the private sector greater access to small, local, minority, disadvantaged, and woman-owned business enterprises.

As evidenced by the success of London’s “CompeteFor” regional procurement platform, establishing such a portal in Los Angeles will achieve cost-savings, advance equity and inclusion, and deliver higher quality results for the client, the contractor, and the community.

City of Los Angeles 2019 – 2020 Annual Budget

Also as an extension of our 2018 Advocacy Platform, to support the creation of an urban forest master plan, we joined a letter of support from TreePeople advocating that the City of LA dedicate funding in this year’s budget to complete a professional street tree inventory. The letter also supports funding for an Urban Forestry Management Plan, as well as, urban forestry public education program.

Although the newly released “Green New Deal” for LA and the update to the City’s sustainability plan underscore the importance of a healthy urban tree canopy, the proposed budget does not allocate ample funding to implement these goals.

AIA|LA and the City of Malibu

Encouraged by Carlo Caccavale to further connect with the City of Malibu’s Department of Planning, we established contact with Bonnie Blue, the Director of Planning. She in turn connected is with Craig George, Environmental Sustainability Director. We aim to learn more about how the AIA|LA can share resources to advance their resiliency programs, as well as, identify ways to further connect architects to help neighbors in their task to rebuild their homes after the catastrophic Woolsey Fire. As this relationship further evolves, we will keep you posted.

Urban Design Review Sessions at Los Angeles City Hall

For 2019, we have scheduled 24 urban design review sessions at Los Angeles City Hall.
All AIA|LA Board Members are encouraged to participate in at least one session each year. These design review sessions serve as forums for AIA members to share critical feedback and insight with City Planners about pending projects prior to appearance at the LA City Planning Commission.

Upcoming PVP Urban Design Review sessions for 2019 include: May 21, June 4, June 18, July 2, July 16, August 6, August 20, September 3, September 17, October 1, October 15, November 5, November 19, December 3, December 17

All meetings will be at Los Angeles City Hall, Conference Room 501 from 10am-12pm.

City Leaders Breakfast Receptions

The 2019 breakfast series, which is sponsored by Psomas, is well underway

Confirmed for 2019 are the following speakers:
April 5 (8am) – Roxana Tynan – Executive Director, Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy
April 26 (8am) – Julia Turner – Deputy Managing Editor, Arts & Entertainment, LA TIMES
April 26 (12pm) – Kate Gordon – Director, Governor’s Office of Planning and Research & & Senior Advisor to the Governor on Climate
May 31 – Monique King–Viehland – Executive Director, Community Development Commission and Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles
June 21 – Maria Elena Durazo – State Senator Twenty-Fourth District, California
August 2 – Karen Mack – CEO, LA Commons

If you have an idea for a speaker and/or would like to have your firm host one of the receptions, please contact Will Wright.

Membership

Member Counts as of 5/3/2019

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Previous Year's Count</th>
<th>Percentage Change</th>
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<td>4.5% increase</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
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<tr>
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Membership Dues Totals & Comparisons

10/1/2018-5/3/2019 Membership Year to date $617,612.15 +
(was $566,778.72 for the same period in 2018; +9%)

2019 Calendar YTD as of 5/3/2019 $397,648.06 (was $363,823.84 in 2018; +9.3%)

* All Board members and Committee leaders are invited to our New Member/Newly Licensed reception at Eggersmann in W. Hollywood on Thursday, May 16.
* As of April 1, nonrenewed memberships lapsed. Those members have been contacted by AIA National and Steve continues to follow up and assist with renewals.
* 40 local members are on CES audit and have until Sept. 30, 2019 to complete their 2018 CES requirement of 18 hours including 12 HSW.
* Steve visited Cuningham Group on March 14 to share an update on AIA programs, resources and opportunities for involvement. Steve and Maria also visited HOK on April 4 and Steve met with CO
Architects on April 12. Presentation dates are being finalized at IBI Group, NBBJ and Steinberg Hart, among other offices. All firms are invited to schedule a visit and tell us what topics are of interest to your team. We’re planning a minimum of 24 office visits this year.
* Steve is also coordinating with some architects who will be participating in the Alliance Stern MASS high school career event on May 17, including Andrew Alcala from ZGF.
* Steve Tanner visited with 1st and 3rd year students at East Los Angeles College on March 13, and attended career fairs at USC on March 22, Woodbury University on March 26, and CalPoly Pomona on April 9 (along with AIA Pasadena/Foothill.)
* AIA LA has subscribed to AIA Trust’s LegaLine, which will provide a block of 30 calls annually for expert advice, for our Architect & Associate members who have practice-related questions.
* We’ve received and are marking up the proof for our 2019 Member Directory & Resource Guide, which launches online & in print in June.

Awards

Restaurant Design Awards
* Celebrating its 15th year in 2019
* Registration ran from March 1st – April 8th → of the 60 registered, 58 submitted
* This year, the program will be celebrated at the LA Design Festival at ROW DTLA – different from past years when we collaborated with Dwell on Design.
* June 22nd 5PM–8PM

Design Awards
* Call for Entries sent out April 25th
* 155 registered as of May 21st
* Venue Scouting – Saban Theatre; Mark Taper

Events

TOURS
A slew of tours have been confirmed, featuring some of our 2018 Design Award-winners
* May 4 – UCLA Outpatient Surgery & Oncology Center w. Michael Folonis
* May 14 – Camelot Kids Center w. KeltnerCo
* May 17 – Providence Breeze Ambulatory Care Center w. Cuningham Group Architecture
* May 21 – Geffen Academy at UCLA w. Koning Eizenberg
* May 30 – Roger TV Animation Warehouse w. CHA:COL, Inc.
* June 22 – Zen Modern Tour w. Marcos Santa Ana
* June 26 – Mariposa w. Lorcan O’Herlihy Architects [LOHA]
* July 10 – MLK 1101 w. Lorcan O’Herlihy Architects [LOHA]
* TBD – Arroyo Affordable Housing w. Koning Eizenberg

SEMINARS
* We’ve rolled out a plan for monthly ADA (American Disability Act) seminars in 2019 so that licensed architects, and everyone whose job is intertwined with issues of accessibility, can get their mandatory continuing education learning units for re-licensure in CA. We have January–May planned with Janis
CONFERENCES

May 15th – the AIA|LA Architecture in Healthcare Committee will be holding their FIRST annual conference at the Pacific Design Center, titled Purposeful, which will focus on bringing together professionals of the architecture/design, construction, and engineering industries with healthcare professionals and providers for a design-charrette focused on repurposing an existing healthcare facility that cannot be brought up to code for acute care and must be re-envisioned for alternative health care needs.

Communications

+ In conjunction with Encompass, the Communications Department gathered video material to be edited and posted to Instagram in coming months. Thanks to Board Member Leslie Syndor, AIA, for sharing her story with us. We’ll send you an email once her video is posted. To boost Encompass attendance directly, we taped and cut a video of a client—the City of Los Angeles’ Mahmood Karimzadeh—who was speaking at the event. Video views are typically at least double the eyeballs we’re attracting to stills. Mahmoods views ran at 200.

+ To announce the recent RAA winners, a fast-paced video was also produced garnering over 400 views. 17 percent of viewers were not AIA|LA followers, drawn by the video itself, hashtags and @s. That’s a great number, topping the metrics earned by an video of Barbara Bouza, FAIA, which garnered 335 views during our last ED reporting period.

+ Instagram stories were produced on the WiA’s Women Build event at a SGV Habitat for Humanity site; the Residential Architecture Awards ceremony/reception and AIA|LA COTE’s 2DegreesC conference. While the latter featured real and relevant content intended to inform people who weren’t able to attend and demonstrate the relevancy and prestige of the conference, the first two were more about comradery and fun.
+ We continue to post extensively on LinkedIn. In terms of social media, we approach all four platforms IG, LI, Twitter, and FB with different content and strategies.
+ A social media kit was produced for AIA|LA Design Awards Committee members to support Early Bird registration.
+ Under the don’t fix it if it’s already stellar nomenclature, the program designed for the Residential Architecture Awards used what has become an annual template. The cover is comprised of twenty-three bands, each featuring a horizontal sliver of an RAA recipient. This year, the AIA|LA’s intern, Adam Ramirez, who is about to graduate from Woodbury, produced the work. Adam continues to make terrific contributions to the AIA|LA’s output.
+ Press Releases: The release announcing the formation of the Robert Kennard, FAIA, Award for Equity, Diversity & Inclusivity put forth the contributions of this extraordinary individual and the
benefits diversity brings to clients as well communicating the awards inception to members. We ran the release, in its entirety, as an email.
The angle for the press release announcing Residential Architecture Award winners was: AIA members furnish design excellence at the service of clients, no matter the scale.
+Current Working On:
Printed collateral for Purposeful, An Architecture in Healthcare Workshop is going out the door this afternoon. Props go to Perkins+Will’s Tina Giorgadze, IIDA, RID, CHID, for establishing its design motif, with Adam Ramirez modifying it as needed.

**METRICS**
Total # of Newsletters, Advocacy Reports and Email blasts (03.08.19–05.07.19): 34 = 4.25 per week up from 3.88 per week

Social Media Penetration:
› IG: March 13, 2019: 6496 | May 7, 2019: 6757 (+261)
› Linkedin: March 13, 2019: 1460 | May 7, 2019: 1539 (+79)
› Facebook: January 11, 2019: 3,745 | March 13, 2019 (not available | May 7, 2019: 4570 (+825)
› Twitter: March 13, 2019: 9554 | May 7, 2019: 9571 (+17)

Newsletter + Ads
Newsletter Subscribers: 13675 (-16)
Jan – March Royalties on Website and Newsletter Banner Ads: 2,200.46
Jan – March Booked Sales on Website and Newsletter Banner Ads: 8186.08
Jan – March Collected Sales on Website and Newsletter Banner Ads: 2,200.46

**Job Listings**

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<th>Listings</th>
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<td>29 – 23m, 6nm</td>
<td>$2,050</td>
<td>44 / 2500</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mar</td>
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Committees

2X8
The exhibit is set to open on May 8 at the Helms Bakery in Culver City - staff and committee are working to ensure large school participation, sponsorship and iron out the details of all logistics. The committee selected a proposal for the design of the exhibit and the building team is at work to implement construction. A Hackathon was done a couple of weeks prior to the opening to set up the tone of the 2x8 experience, with 26 registered - the hackathon was tied to the development of a VR program that will also be available at the 2x8 opening May 8th.

COTE
COTE toured the Michael Folonis Architects UCLA Outpatient Surgery & Oncology Center on May 4th, which included a brief lecture and an amazing in-depth, behind the scenes tour lead by Michael Folonis. The next event will be a professional development seminar on May 28th at ZGF at 8am (organized by AIA|LA but presented by COTE members) on sustainable materials lead by Avideh Haghighi and Patricia Bijvoet, which will be similar to their presentation given at the 2°C symposium earlier this year. COTE is also planning a special meeting at CO Architects on May 15th at 6pm to make comments on Los Angeles’ “Our County Sustainability Plan” (regional sustainability plan), which seeks feedback and additional recommendations before it is brought before the Board of Supervisors this summer. Other events in the pipeline include a possible tour of the La Kretz Innovation Campus lead by Verdical Group, and a tour of the 2018 COTE Award Winning renovation of Otis College’s campus.

EMERGING PROFESSIONALS
AIA|LA was the host Chapter for the AIA California/AEP Summit on April 6, 2019, designed for emerging leaders to gain knowledge about the AIA and the resources available to help EP Directors succeed and connect with other EP leaders from all over the state. Keynotes included Chet Widon, FAIA and Ginger Tanzmann, FAIA. David Phung, Assoc. AIA, organized the first EP field trip on April 27, a tour of Banc of California Stadium that was led by project team members from Gensler, Thornton Tomasetti, and M-E Engineers, and attracted 35 attendees. The EP schedule for 2019 includes ARE seminars, firm mixers, a mentorship mixer, field trips, two more BARchitecture happy hours, and an Emerging Professionals Showcase. AIA|LA is applying for an EP grant from AIA College of Fellows to fund the ARE study program proposed by Hector Puga and Rachel Martinelli. Staff liaison Steve Tanner will be visiting a meeting of UCLA’s AIAS Chapter on May 29 with David Phung to discuss connections between the campus and AIA.

FELLOWS NOMINATING
The Committee met on April 16 to make their nominations for the 2019-20 process. Thus far, 36 Architect members are being nominated, and the Committee is also looking at additional candidates who may be added to that group. Next meeting, which includes a general overview for nominees and small group reviews of nominees’ draft submissions, will be May 7 at DLR Group. The AIA|LA New Fellows Reception will take place at bulthaup in June.
ARCHITECTURE IN HEALTHCARE
The committee executed a hugely successful PURPOSEFUL conference, which brought together real clients, architects, engineers, and vendors in a charrette-style workshop at the Pacific Design Center. Over 100 participants sat around 8’ tables, armed with post-its, pens, tracing paper, and a brief on what they would be designing for. Check out the AIA|LA Instagram for images of the event. Moving forward in 2019, the committee will continue to organize their regular monthly tours and presentations.

HISTORIC RESOURCES
With the departure of the 2018 Chair John Margolis, AIA – the committee seeks new and inspired leadership. Please contact the office if you, or someone you know may be interested in this opportunity!

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE
Planned lectures, tours, and events include (but are not limited to) collaborations with:
Architects: Clive Wilkinson; Joey Shimoda, and Lauren Rottet
Projects: Halo; KCRW; LALGBT
Guest Speakers: Frances Anderton; Teal Brogdan
Dates are forthcoming and plans to launch the 2019 season are set for the summer.

URBAN DESIGN
Tony Pleskow, AIA, is driving the reinvigoration of this committee. His vision focuses on connecting the committee and committee event attendees with real world events. #Influence and #EducateToBetterInfluence.

Thus, the committee has become a draw for city officials and policy makers. Case in point: LA City Controller Ron Galperin was an unannounced speaker at the committee’s April event on the decline of the urban tree canopy in Los Angeles. Galperin presented his Turning A New Leaf report to the assembled group, studio prior prior to the official program presented by USC Professor Travis Longcore to discuss the future of the urban tree canopy in Los Angeles. Among Longcore’s thoughts was the reduction of landscape on which to grow trees in the city. Fifty-three people registered to attend the event held at Rios Clementi Hale, where firm employees stayed at the end of their day to listen in. Nice to have a significant elected official show that he’s interested in connecting with members. The event proposed by Isabelle Duvivier, FAIA, who has been a strong advocate on the issue and attended last year’s Legislative Day.

Up Next: Tuesday, May 14, at 6PM the committee will serve as a collection point for architects’ comments on the Draft Los Angeles Citywide Design Guidelines, which are updates to a document approved by the city in 2018. With design objectives that maintain neighborhood form and character, and promote design excellence and innovative development solutions, the ultimate version of this document WILL AFFECT ARCHITECTS. Here’s the link if you want to send someone from your firm: https://www.aialosangeles.org/event/los-angeles-citywide-design-guidelines-a-roundtable-discussion/
Public comment ends May 24.

WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE
+ Coming up next: A very smart panel on EDI. On Wednesday May 22, at 6:30P please join Wia at JERDE to learn how firms, large and small, are achieving EDI benchmarks articulated in the AIA|LA’s EDI guidelines. This is a fantastic event to see how AIA|LA’s leadership on the topic is actually playing out. AND it will be an inspiring event and pragmatic way to learn. It was conceived and is headed by
WiA Past Chair Melanie Freeland, AIA. WiA was kind enough to hold off on its EDI panel until after Encompass so as to not encroach on ticket sales. Big thank you! And, board members, do come.

+ In the future: On Wednesday, April 17, WiA held a planning meeting for Powerful VI, which as become the MDC of AIA|LA’s conferences. Once again, the conference will be back-to-back with Design Awards Jury Day. The benefit—an international name, in for jury day, as a headliner. WiA leadership opens these planning events to all, and this meeting boasted a large and diverse contingent of young designers. In all probability, Powerful VI will remain at the Dorothy Chandler this year, but move to a LARGER room. Co-Chairs Annette Wu, AIA, and Lani Lee, AIA, have been selfless in their leadership of WiA, attributes that continue to drive truly beneficial events for a multitude of members.

+ Past: Women in Architecture, #SheNailedIt. That’s the hashtag for Habitat for Humanity’s Women Build, which WiA sent a team of 23 builders to on Saturday, May 4. Twenty-three women in design including WiA Co-Chair Annette Wu, AIA and Vice-Chair Chiara Bonsignori, Assoc. AIA, pounded nails and other construction activities need to build two homes for Habitat for Humanity families. Overseeing the event for WiA was Co-Chair Lani Lee, AIA, who, along with other chairs raised $5000 for Habitat for Humanity. (As many of you know the national organization builds homes for working families.) Debra Gerod, FAIA, contributed 10 spots accorded her as a H4H honoree. And board member Daphany Shen, Assoc. AIA, led a construction crew. That’s the FAQs. Not in the box score—the invigoration of being part of the construction crew that the team enjoyed. Among the attendees was a pair returning to our team for the third time. Check the AIA|LA’s Instagram page, click on WiA for our highlighted stories, and click through to find images of the day.

+ Past Past: The last ED report was on the cusp of WiA’s March 20 screening + reception for Mina Chow’s “What happened to the World Fair” at the Helms Design District. A capacity crowd (actually beyond capacity) took in the film. Prominent FAIA of all genders drove across town, some from far across the east side to make the west side screening. Packed house, that sat quietly through the film, then stayed late, catching up. Huge thanks to Vitra, PLP SoCal and Louis Poulsen for keep showrooms open till 9:45PM and to Helms Bakery District for hosting the group.