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ASITE Provides Sponsorship for AIA London/UK Student Design Award

While the AIA London/UK Chapter Design Awards are now well established on the UK Architectural Calendar, our Student Awards have languished on the sidelines. The poor response to previous calls for projects has been attributed to a lack of understanding of the student environment, poor timing, insufficient publicity and, perhaps most importantly, to the lack of any appreciable monetary reward.

This year, things are set to change. Our newest corporate sponsor, **ASITE**, has generously donated £2,000 towards an ongoing awards programme that can be allocated each year to deserving students.

The Student Travel Awards Programme will award 2 or 3 gifted students with sponsorship of architecture related travel to the US. It is open to Part 1, Part 2, Year-Out Students and Recent Graduates. Students will be asked to outline their travel plans as part of their design submissions.

Our two new Student Representatives - **Ben Ashton** and **Helen Hadjikyriacou**, both from RTKL - are providing insight into the student scene and the student calendar and have fashioned an eye-catching poster to send to all UK universities.

ASITE describes itself as the central information hub for the construction community - from architects to material manufacturers, from trade contractors to facilities managers. Its web based services can be accessed on www.asite.com.

ASITE joins the construction managers, **MACE Limited**, in sponsoring the AIA Excellence in Design Awards.

This year's Design Awards are being organised by Robert Schmidt, AIA, and Timothy Gale, AIA, from SOM. Sponsorship for the Student Design Awards was initiated by Stephan Reinke AIA, RIBA, from WML + Woods Bagot.



Helen Hadjikyriacou and Ben Ashton, London/UK Student Reps, visit the Herman Miller showrooms for the Chapter's annual AGM.

Rick Mather Wins AIA Business Week Award

Rick Mather Architects has won one of eleven AIA / *Business Week* awards for 2001. The awards - now in their 5th year - are given annually to organisations that prove "*good design is good business.*" The awards recognise not only good design, but also how the design solutions enhance our sense of community, encourage workplace creativity and underscore the economic viability of building "green."

According to the AIA President John D Anderson, FAIA, "*it is the focus on how these solutions impact the bottom line that make these awards especially relevant in today's uncertain economic climate.*"

The Dulwich Picture Gallery - featured in the London/UK Chapter's last newsletter - increased visitor services and contributed substantially to increased attendance at the gallery. It has also earned **Rick Mather, Int'l Associate AIA, RIBA**, increased and well deserved international recognition

Calendar 2002

JANUARY

8 Tuesday
6:30

"Annual General Meeting & Social Evening," at the Herman Miller show-rooms, 149 Tottenham Court Road, London

30 Wednesday

6:30pm

Lecture at the trendy Gotham 17 Gallery, 17 Chepstow Corner, Notting Hill, London W2, with an exhibition and lecture by artist Linda Karsham.

CEU Credits!

FEBRUARY

12 Tuesday
6:30pm

"AIA London/UK Excellence in Design Awards Presentation". British Museum Great Court.

28 Thursday

6:30pm

"Wagner Biro Lecture" Venue TBA / RSVP please... **CEU Credits!**

MARCH

APRIL

Help us fill in the blanks for next year. Volunteer for the Events Committee via info@aiauk.org.

Small Events Continue to Define the London / UK Chapter Commitment to Value

Attendance at AIA London/UK sponsored events continues to increase. For the past year, the goal has been to hold an average of two quality events a month, many offering CEUs learning units (now mandatory for all overseas chapters) and all providing professional stimulation and social interest.

Urban Design Seminar - Allan Baxter & Associates

On 20 Sep 01, **Robert Thorne** and **Andrew Cameron**, authors of the book "Places, Streets and Movement," presented their work to an AIA audience as part of 'Urban Design Week.'

Compelling examples of successful street design for pedestrians and cars were presented, with Leon Krier's master plan for Prince Charles' Poundbury development stimulating a lively debate.

Building Tour - Lloyds Register of Shipping

Approximately 40 Chapter members were treated to a tour of Richard Roger Partnership's recently completed Lloyds Register of Shipping. The tour was led by representatives from Arup's services engineering department.

The building, featuring classic RRP design features - exposed structural concrete ceilings, chilled beams, VAV air displacement - represents the leading edge in the commercial office market.

Industrial Design Seminar - IDEO

IDEO's presentation and tour focused on design and research and the teamwork necessary to bring new technology to users - technology ranging from hand held Palm Pilots to jumbo Airbus 3xx interiors.

The tour included a visit to the model shop, electronically connected to other IDEO offices. to make high speed, global consultation possible. Chapter members were able to pass the "digital torch" that will be used to open this year's Commonwealth Games - IDEO's technical innovation having eliminated the danger of burnt fingers.



Bruce Gornick, Prof Affiliate AIA, Harry Goforth, Int'l Assoc AIA RIBA, Lester Korzilius, AIA RIBA and Hiko Takeda, AIA, discuss the nuances of urban design with the authors.

Eden Project Review - Nicholas Grimshaw & Partners

An actual Chapter trip to the Eden Project being still only dream, the next best thing was an in-depth review led by the **Andrew Walley**, AIA, RIBA, Nicholas Grimshaw & Partner's Director in Charge, and **Alan Jones**, Anthony Hunt Associate's Project Engineer.

Over 50 chapter members and guests attended the November lecture, which included insights into the project's design and construction. The design innovation was matched by a flexible contracting approach that insured the project's delivery under pressure.

Continuing Ed Fact File:

In 2001, the London/UK Chapter offered a total of **26.25 CEUs** - more than enough for the year's requirements.

Harry Goforth, AIA, Continuing Education Committee, confirms that all credits for the year have been registered by the AIA/CES Offices in Oklahoma City.



Ideas for CES Events, Building Tours and Pubs needed!

International Associate Status Under Discussion

Although the AIA membership application form has always had an "International Associate" category with enhanced membership dues attached to it, the official, internal position at AIA National has been to lump all non-US registered architects within the "Associate" category.

Last July, the AIA Continental European Chapter - with the explicit support of the London/UK Chapter - proposed a Resolution to formalise the International Associate category and to lower the dues to equalise with the Associate category. The clear objective of this proposal is to promote international AIA membership and to enhance the Institute's role through increased inclusivity.

In October, the proposal was forwarded by the AIA Board of Directors to the Membership Committee for consideration. Unfortunately, the Membership Committee will be unable to address the Resolution until the March Board Meeting.

Ellen Delange, the AIA Director of International Relations, has been monitoring the progress of the Resolution on behalf of the international chapters. She notes that *"motions for changes in the bylaws are often not successful when proposed individually and a comprehensive package of membership resolutions may have a better chance of passage."*

The London/UK Chapter feels strongly about the need for formal recognition of the International Associate category. The lowering of category dues would be a great relief to our RIBA members and would allow the expansion of our membership base. The Chapter Board will be putting its full support towards the success of this Resolution.

Membership Fact File:

At last count, there were **171** members of the London/UK Chapter, made up as follows:

Full Members - 74	Int'l Associates - 27
Associates - 22	Prof Affiliates - 8
Honorary - 20	Emeritus - 2
Students - 5	Corp Partners - 13

And there are still eight outstanding enquiries...

Total membership in AIA national has now reached **70,500**.

Membership Dues Have Been Consolidated with National

In order to provide a better service, the Chapter membership records are being merged with National's database. One important effect of this is that - from now on - you will be receiving only **ONE** dues invoice for the combined National and Chapter totals.

The Chapter Board has elected to maintain London / UK dues at £65.00 and this is included on the invoice as \$97.50 for "State" dues.

The Board has also negotiated an opt-out for the £50.00 advertising surcharge. If you have been incorrectly charged for this (only if it is clearly identified on the invoice), please deduct the amount from your payment.

Architect - \$206.00

International Associate - \$206.00

Associate - \$89.00

Chapter & Affiliate - £97.50 (£65.00)

National Conference Charlotte, North Carolina

It is not too early to plan on attending the next National Conference May 9 -11 with this year's theme, Design Design.

DESIGN • N
AIA 2002 National Convention and Expo



The Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects

The Annual Livery Banquet will be held on Tuesday, 16 April 2002 at Mansion House in the presence of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs.

AIA members have always been made most welcome at this event. When AIA attendance has merited it, a special American table has been made available. This year, the Lord Mayor will present the New City Architecture Award at the Banquet.

Further details will be issued in the new year.

BUILDING CENTRE TRUST Offers a Wide Range of Educational Events

Should the London/UK members be unable to achieve sufficient CEUs via Chapter sponsored events, other local institutions are now able to fill the gap. The Building Centre Trust, in particular, offers a free range of lectures and exhibitions worthy of significant attention.

The threatened architectural heritage of Prizren, Kosova, will be the subject of an exhibition and reception in early January in conjunction with the Council of Europe.

A Composite Design series will begin on 29 January with selected practices and manufactures submitting prototypes, models, mock-ups and components to explain specific aspects of design development in the context of past, present and future architectural schemes. The exhibition will be backed up with individual lectures throughout February and March.

Super Models and the Art of the Model Maker will be the subject of an exhibition/lecture series in April through June.

Later in the year, there will be series on Buildings and Products, on Colour in Architecture and on Housing.



A detailed programme will be available at the Building Centre Trust (Tel: 020 7692 4000 / Web: www.buildingcentre.co.uk). The AIA contact at the Building Centre is Andrew Scoones.

State Boards to Recognise AR Continuing Education Units

Perhaps the most convenient way to earn CEUs has been through the technical quizzes featured in Architectural Record. However, several states - the largest being New York & Texas - disallowed the quizzes, questioning their rigor and interactivity.

It has now been announced that the AIA Continuing Education System and state licensing officials have set up a new policy that accepts the AR learning units. Acceptance will be subject to time limits (2 years), unit limits (8 per year) and a processing fee (\$10).



And - of course - a passing score of at least 70% is mandatory.

The Jury's Verdict...

Jury selections are critical to the success of the London / UK Chapter's events. The jury for this year's Student and Professional Charette was no exception. Julia Barfield (Marks Barfield Architects), John McAslan (John McAslan Architects) Mohammed Azar and Rabi El Faed (Battle McCarthy Engineers) and Mark Brearley (GLA Architecture and Urbanism Unit) added to the prestige of this year's event. For the past 5 years, Paul Finch, Deputy Chairman CABA, has chaired the Jury and given his own assessment of the results.

"In usual fashion, the jury conducted a quick-fire assessment of the ten schemes, following brief presentations, some of which were more concise than others (usually reflecting the clarity of the project). We felt that all the schemes showed some evidence of constructive thought, but that those which worked best had taken one or two strong ideas and had pushed them to produce strong architecture, a strong plan, or both.

Interestingly, there was little appetite for the addition of multiple grandiose tall buildings, rather a more contextual approach which responded to the one tall building on the site (and often to the surrounding dense urban grain, mainly low-rise). This was done either by re-use of the existing tower, or in some cases with a balancing tower at the other end of the site, through a range of additional medium-rise buildings, or in one spectacular case, the masking of building height by encasing the site in a Bucky Fuller-style mega roof.

The jury was generally convinced by permeable plans which exploited the linearity of the larger exhibition area yet did not cut it off from its hinterland; one might almost say that an approach to the site with a landscape sensibility influenced several of the schemes, without a landscape architect being part of them.

The pleasing range of ideas included the intensification of exhibition activity to produce a new critical mass for the area; the provision of substantial numbers of starter homes as a response to housing shortage and inadequate incomes; and an approach to energy, ecology and recycling which infused both existing and future buildings.

Sensibly, the teams had generally opted for an urban design approach to the programme, rather than opting to unload the last word in skyscrapers onto a site which doesn't particularly need them.

Overall, an encouraging exercise; there should be more events like this." Paul Finch

VERTICALLY INCLINED: *Students & Professionals Accept the Challenge of High Rise Design*

The AIA London/UK Chapter *7th Annual Student and Professional Design Charrette* was held on 10 November at the *Call Print Warehouses* in Olympia. The enthusiastic turnout of 55 students and professionals collaborated on a conceptual design problem related to the Empress State Building, along Lillie Road in Central Fulham. The site of the existing, empty building was extended to include a linear strip at the rear, currently occupied by London Underground storage depots. This year's challenge was to suggest re-uses for the Empress State Building and provide a new program for the extended site.

The thrust of the brief was to integrate the high rise building and the new programme into the existing context of the surrounding residential housing estates - in particular to address the ground level conditions of high rise towers with an urbanistic approach. Although the site is essentially land locked and lacks a "front door," it was large enough for a mixed-use high rise programme, if needed.

The participants were separated into 10 teams ranging from 5 to 7 members. All groups responded with passion and intensity, producing the usual slue of drawings and models in a struggle to clarify strategies. The process is intended to be collaborative rather than competitive and to expose students to the team approach of sharing ideas under the guidance of practiced professionals. The projects were presented to the jury by 2 people from each group - 1 practitioner and 1 student.

This year, there were professional members from:

Broadway Malyan Architects
RTKL
Foster and Partners
Chetwood Associates
SOM
Forge Llewelyn
Nightingale Associates



Students and professionals alike did not shy away from bold concepts and sweeping solutions. Presentations boards and/or custom models explained the designs



One of the commended project teams was led by Ernesto Zabarte, Assoc AIA, from RTKL.

Students came from Schools of Architecture at Sheffield, Portsmouth, Greenwich, Westminster, Cardiff, Kingston, RCA, the Bartlett, Southbank and Liverpool. A number of students were on exchange programs from Italy and Germany.

The venue and printing services were generously provided by **Call Print**, who has sponsored the event since its inception. Their service was brilliant, even faster than previous years, which gave more time for discussion and drawing production.

For the last 3 years, the Charette has been organised by Yasim Visram, Assoc AIA, of Nightingale Associates. For his efforts on behalf of this unique event, the AIA London/UK Chapter has awarded him a special certificate of appreciation. If you have comments regarding the events, please contact Yasim at myvisram@hotmail.com.



Charette Document No 7, illustrating all the projects is planned for early 2002.



AIA / U K N E W S

AIA / U K

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Stephanie Groom **Chapter Executive**

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Newsletter for The First International Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

The AIA/UK Newsletter is published quarterly.

The Newsletter is a service provide by AIA members in the UK to the public, the profession and anyone interested in the activities of design professionals who are working abroad.

Notes to the editor, suggestions, criticism, etc. are welcome. Submissions may be sent to Info@AIAuk.org or posted to "News" at the above address. Typed material and images intended for publication must reach the editor by the listed deadline date. Appropriate submissions are edited and published as space and time permit and at the discretion of the AIA London/UK Board of Directors.

Lorraine Dale King, AIA,
Editor

Oct-Dec 2001

The AIA London/UK Chapter is pleased to announce its new sponsor

A S I T E

Not only will ASITE join our other corporate sponsors listed below, it will also support the

AIA Excellence in Design Awards for Students

 **herman miller**

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A I A London / U K

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