Dear Colleagues,

AIA Kansas’ annual conference theme was “Embracing Disruption” and in many ways the organization took this to heart in 2019, working to be innovative with member services and community building.

2019 started strong as the Governmental Affairs Committee hosted an AIA Kansas Advocacy Summit at the Capitol. The event included presentations from Lt. Governor Lynn Rogers and the interim Department of Administration Secretary Duane Goossen. Attendees met with their individual legislators throughout the morning and the event ended with a tour of the statehouse, highlighting the recent renovations. Mark your calendars for the next AIA Kansas Advocacy Summit scheduled for Thursday, January 30, 2020.

The Governmental Affairs Committee was very active this year, meeting monthly and creating several subcommittees. Each subcommittee took a deep dive into specific topics such as procurement, school safety and AIA Kansas policy statements. Malcolm Watkins, AIA, AIA Kansas President-Elect and the Governmental Affairs Committee Chair, submitted a presentation proposal about school safety for the Kansas Association of School Board annual conference. The presentation proposal was accepted, and AIA Kansas representatives alongside Geary County public school officials will present at the upcoming conference. True innovation and “disruption” take time as we all know, and we look forward to seeing AIA Kansas policy statements and new resources related to procurement in the Kansas education environment released in 2020.

Proudly, AIA Kansas was well represented at all national conferences and networking meetings ranging from the annual National AIA conference to the State Local Government Network Conference. Two AIA Kansas members, Grant Thome, AIA, and Malcolm Watkins, AIA, presented our government advocacy work at the AIA National Grassroots conference. Additionally, Kansas was well represented in Washington D.C. as a team AIA Kansas members met with the federal Kansas delegation.

AIA Kansas’ annual conference was a success and saw record attendance and participation from new allied member exhibitors. The Resource Design Guide continued to gain attention with members of the public and effectively promote the profession throughout the state. AIA Kansas’ attention to core member services was recognized by AIA National this year. Our Executive Director, Terry Humphrey, and staff worked diligently to provide evidence of support demonstrating AIA Kansas’ work and dedication to AIA’s seven core membership goals including Member Communications, Education, Advocacy, Public Outreach, Governance, Membership, and Finance. AIA National recognized this attention to detail by extending our chapter accreditation through 2022.

It was with great honor that I was able to celebrate two of our esteemed AIA Kansas members this past year, who were named into the 2019 AIA College of Fellows. The College of Fellows is the highest rank in AIA’s membership awarded to those who have demonstrated a “standard of excellence” in architecture and have made significant contributions to the profession of architecture and society. Robert Condia, FAIA, and Timothy E. de Noble, FAIA were recognized with this highest achievement. Congratulations! We look forward to celebrating more of you in the future.

AIA Kansas is ending the year with significant momentum as we look forward to 2020 and continuing to “Embrace Disruption”. A newly formed committee, the Leadership Advisory Council, has met and will work to finalize the details of a new AIA Kansas Leadership program. A Communication Task Force is gathering to evaluate communication strategies to improve membership relations and the Conference Planning Committee is committed to bringing you another enlightening educational, networking event in the coming year.

It is an exciting time for the organization. I encourage you each to be part of the momentum and engage with your fellow AIA Kansas colleagues and AIA Kansas leadership.

Cheers to 2020!

Emily
AIA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

AIA Kansas membership continued to remain constant in 2019. AIA Kansas total membership for the year was 712. There were 427 Architects and 206 Associate Architects. AIA Kansas is proud to have 14 FAIA and 65 Emeritus members. Below are two charts that show the organization’s membership by age and by gender. In 2019, AIA Kansas had an increase in Allied Membership of 26%.

NOMINATIONS

Michael Grogan, AIA, proposed President-Elect, joined the faculty of Kansas State University as an Assistant Professor of architecture in the fall of 2017. For over 20 years, he has practiced in many cities throughout the U.S. Michael received his Master of Architecture from Yale University and Bachelor in Architecture from the University of Arkansas. He is a registered architect in Massachusetts and New York, a LEED accredited professional and a member of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB).

Will Chmylak, AIA, proposed Secretary, is an Associate Principal at ACI Boland Architects. He has a range of architectural experience in healthcare, science and technology and sports facilities. His primary responsibilities include working with the HEAL Studio leading healthcare projects and initiatives. Chmylak holds a bachelor’s degree in architecture from Texas Tech University and has over 20 years of experience in the profession.

Mariah Meyer, AIA, proposed Treasurer, is an Executive Vice President at BRR Architecture. She has worked on multiple project types in hospitality, retail, entertainment, commercial interiors and education markets. She leads project teams comprised of professional staff from multiple BRR offices to provide full architectural services for clients across the country.

Thomas Carmona, AIA, proposed Associate, received a BS in Technology Studies Fort Hays State University in 2002, touching on civil, electrical and mechanical. Thomas joined Schwerdt Design Group in 2016. He completed his Masters of Architecture in 2017. His experience varies in educational, civic, health and residential projects. He’s currently working towards his architectural license in Kansas.

TREASURER’S REPORT

WILL CHMYLAK, AIA

AIA Kansas is on track to meet our budget projections. The revenue from the annual conference “Embracing Disruption” met projections. Vendor and sponsor support was strong and the new nano sessions were well received. Project submissions for the 2019 Awards competition were at a record high. The conference is our signature event and a revenue source for advancing professional advocacy and programming.

KANSAS ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT

The KAF awarded two $1,000 scholarships for the 2019-2020 school year. One student at each college will receive this scholarship: KSU College of Architecture, Planning and Design and KU School of Architecture & Design. Darius Mathis, AIAS, at the University of Kansas and Austin Willis, AIAS, of Kansas State University are the recipients this year. These students will be recognized at the 2019 Annual Meeting. Both recipients have been active in AIAS at their respective universities.
Approximately 692 members participated in our learning opportunities in 2019, a three percent increase over 2018 participation. AIA Kansas continues to explore ways to offer more to our members across the state by implementing webinars for distance learning and developing programming to meet the needs of our members.

A review of the statistics from previous years shows that we have steadily increased our HSW credit offerings:

- In 2017, AIA Kansas and our partner providers offered 64.5 credit hours, 25.5 of which were HSW.
- In 2018, AIA Kansas and our partner providers offered 62 credit hours, 28.5 of which were HSW. Two of these courses were offered as webinars.
- In 2019, AIA Kansas and our partner providers offered 61.25 credit hours, 35 of which were HSW.
- We continue to team with other registered providers and Allied Members to deliver more education opportunities to our members. As of this writing, members have participated in 11 tours in addition to panel discussions, Lunch & Learn events, and more.

Program partners: Allied Members, Kansas Preservation Alliance, Kansas Historical Society, K-State College of Architecture, Planning, and Design, and other registered providers. AIA Kansas provides programming statewide and exceeds core member services

Embracing Disruption Conference: The AIA Kansas Embracing Disruption 2019 conference was held Sept. 12-13 at the Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview in Wichita. The two-day conference featured national keynote speakers: futurist David Zach and KieranTimberlake partner Jason Smith. The first day of the conference involved presentations on topics ranging from net zero energy to establishing a creative company culture, along with new nano-sessions. AIA Kansas also honored this year’s design award winners at the annual awards celebration. The second day featured tours of the Crash Dynamics Lab at Wichita State University and the Wichita Ballpark. The two-day conference offered 7.5 LUs and 10.5 HSWs. The AIA Kansas Embracing Disruption Conference is one of only a few professional conferences in the region.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS/ADVOCACY REPORT
MALCOLM WATKINS, AIA

In 2019, the Governmental Affairs Committee was very active meeting monthly to organize and implement the advocacy agenda. Malcolm Watkins, the President-Elect, led the committee. In addition, two subcommittees, Procurement and Policy Statements, were created and tackled specific issues.

Some notable achievements from the Government Affairs Committee and subcommittees include:

- A session proposal about school safety was submitted and approved for the Kansas School Board Association annual conference.
- AIA Kansas policy statements are undergoing a review and update. Grant Thome is leading this effort, and the committee will share the new polices with the board for final approval early in 2020.
- Members of the procurement subcommittee met with Kansas City Kansas Community College President, Dr. Greg Mosier, to provide information about the RFP process. Dr. Mosier reached out to AIA Kansas after receiving The AIA Kansas Design Resource Guide, which is published annually and distributed to 600 public sector organizations statewide.

In addition to the committee work, advocacy services were provided consistently throughout the year. Highlights include:

Three people (Malcolm Watkins, Grant Thome and Terry Humphrey) represented AIA Kansas at the 2019 State Local Government Network Conference in Rhode Island. Malcolm and Grant presented on Kansas’ advocacy efforts.

Terry Humphrey and Malcolm Watkins met with the new Secretary of Commerce David Toland. They shared information about the profession and asked for architects to be included on various task forces and committees the Secretary is creating to promote economic development.

AIA Kansas hosted the 2019 Advocacy Summit. Speakers included Lieutenant Governor Lynn Rogers, Secretary of Administration Duane Goossen, Representative Don Hineman (Rural Revitalization Committee Chair) and Senator Julia Lynn (Commerce Chair). Participants had the opportunity to meet with their legislators, and the event concluded with a tour of the renovated State House. The committee is busy planning the 2020 Advocacy Summit, which will be on January 30.

A weekly legislative update was distributed to the membership throughout the 2019 session. The update provided information about bills that AIA Kansas was following and calls to action.

Kansas architects joined more than 600 citizen-architects who were lobbying on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. to promote public policies that improve school safety and energy savings in buildings across the country. This was part of the Grassroots 2019 event.

Members of the procurement subcommittee and Terry Humphrey met with some individuals interested in creating legislation that would not allow school districts to specify proprietary materials and methods in bids. Conversations continue regarding this draft legislation.
**Programming/Content Development:** Work continues on the 2020 Programming/Content Calendar. Sources for programming have come from Sections, AIA members, allied members, suppliers, and other architecture interest groups and publications.

**ENGAGE newsletter & email blasts:** AIA Kansas email blasts including all conference related emails maintain an above average open rate of 32%. According to Constant Contact (AIA Kansas email platform provider), the average open rate for email communication in general is 10-15% per campaign or email. A top tier open rate is 30%. Constant Contact also indicates a click rate of 5% is average. Again AIA Kansas click rates are performing above average with 6%. The email communications are distributed to over 1,000 members, AIAS, stakeholders, CSR representatives and interested individuals. An additional list is maintained of more than 600 public sector organizations.

Electronic Communications (January - November 2019)

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<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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**AIA Social Media:** AIA Kansas staff have been committed to taking pictures at all events and posting them to social media. Original pictures have increased the number of followers and interactions on Facebook. The annual conference increased the activity on social media for the organization significantly. From August 28 – September 24, the AIA Kansas Facebook reached 1,026 people which was an increase of 808% and saw engagement reach 556 people.

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**AIA Kansas Resource Guide for Architecture:** The guide was mailed to all firms who have members of AIA Kansas and to public sector organizations—schools and governmental entities. The guide is also available online. AIA Kansas staff regularly receives contact from members of the public who received the publication and are looking for additional resources from the organization.

**Embracing Disruption, AIA Kansas Annual Conference Website:** AIA Kansas staff developed a website that solely focused on the conference. Registration information, speaker bios, sponsorship opportunities and the schedule were included on the website. It was a successful promotional tool.

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**2019 SAP/KAT REPORT**

The Kansas (Disaster) Assessment Team (KAT) is an approximately 20-year collaboration between the AIA Kansas and the Heart of America International Code Council (HOA ICC) of building code officials. AIA Kansas organizes training for volunteers from our organization, HOA, ICC and other qualified professionals to provide assessment of buildings affected by disasters. Once you successfully complete the training, you are part of KAT. In the past, KAT has responded to Kansas disasters according to a Memorandum of Understanding with the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM).

To maintain current volunteer certification, AIA Kansas provides scheduled and advertised training courses that have been designed according needs faced in the field at Kansas disasters and are described in the KAT Manual. In order to correspond with AIA National recommendations outlined in the 2017 AIA Disaster Assistance Manual 3rd Edition, training of architects by AIA Kansas also complies with the adopted industry standard safety assessment program (SAP) published by the California Emergency Management Agency (CAL EMA), known as the Cal OES Applied Technology Council (ATC) series of courses.

Trained KAT volunteers receive photo-identification cards issued by the KDEM in order to participate in volunteer disaster work in Kansas. Also, if desired, those trained can select certification by CAL EMA in order to participate in assessments according to AIA national, in states where appropriate Good Samaritan Laws exist. Since the beginning of 2018, KAT certification training has been restructured to help inform planning, mitigation, and recovery in addition to response. Recent requests for disaster volunteers from within AIA national disaster volunteer network from all states, that includes the KAT, required CAL EMA identification cards for out-of-state SAP volunteers.

Spring and fall training were provided by AIA Kansas and the KAT in 2019. Long-time trainer Stan Peterson, FAIA Kansas and Jeramie Rittiluechai, AIA Texas presented the 2019 training assisted by Ava Christie, AIA Kansas State Disaster Coordinator and AIA Kansas staff.

Beginning in 2020, David Schaecher, AIA Kansas will assume the role of State Disaster Coordinator and William Robarge, AIA Kansas as KAT Co-coordinator/trainer. They will continue to work with AIA Kansas to host the two certification trainings and develop new community resilience trainings. AIA Kansas would like to offer a special thank you to Ava Christie, AIA Kansas who served a member of the AIA national Disaster Assistance Committee (DAC) since 2016 and as Kansas State Disaster Coordinator since 2009.