



# AIA Michigan Newsletter

## April 2013

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### Monthly Poll Question:

[Do you know about the AIA National Repositioning initiative? What would you like to know more about?](#)

As always, we want to know how we can serve our members more effectively, so please tell us what you do and don't like about AIA Michigan's services [here](#).

### Quick Links

[AIA Michigan Website](#)  
[AIA Michigan Calendar](#)  
[AIA Michigan Job Board](#)  
[AIA National Website](#)  
[Michigan Architectural Foundation \(MAF\)](#)

### Sponsor Information

[Opportunities to sponsor the AIA Michigan Monthly E-Newsletter are now available!](#)

Contact [christine@aiami.com](mailto:christine@aiami.com) for information!

### President's Message:

Lately, I've been having a lot of discussions about the future of the profession and the future of the AIA. A delegation of AIA Michigan members attended the Grassroots conference last month and we learned about and took part in the Repositioning Initiative that AIA National has embarked on. It differs from some of the past strategic planning in two major ways:



1) by the sheer amount of interviews (over 30,000) that went into the findings helping us get past the question of truth vs. anecdotes, and

2) by the format of the outcome - not a roadmap, but a framework for the local chapters to set priorities by with the goal of making the AIA more vibrant, responsive and relevant.

There is more to come at the Convention, but AIA Michigan is moving forward now with town hall meetings at each local chapter this month and next, so please make sure to attend and join the discussion.

Peter Drucker said, "The best way to predict the future is to create it". The future isn't something that already exists and we just have to arrive there. We need to envision it. We need to broaden our reach as architects and collaborate with our partners in the built environment. We need to create a culture of being involved and engaged.

Just over a year ago my mother received an award celebrating a lifetime of work for the Democratic Party and the community. She always talks about how encouragement from someone (in her case her husband/my dad) can make all the difference in getting involved and having a positive impact on your community. She was on Ann Arbor's city council for 6 years and she ran for mayor. We lost my dad when I was 5 years old and my mother raised my sisters, brother and me by herself. She went back to school, got her master's degree, served on planning commission, was a founding member of the DDA, etc. etc. She currently serves on 4 boards and chairs two of them. She will be 90 years old this summer. I tell that story to emphasize the importance and impact of getting involved, and to emphasize the importance of asking each other to step up.

I got into architecture because, as trite as it sounds, I wanted to make the world a better place. I got into the AIA because someone asked me to. Next time you go to an AIA event, ask someone to go with you, and ask them to get involved. The world will be a little better place.

Sincerely,



Tamara E. L. Burns, AIA

#### Interim Executive Director's Message:



Hello and Happy April! The phrase "April showers bring May flowers" has certainly been appropriate these past few weeks, but I know the clouds will part soon and I am looking forward to sunny days and our summer events.

National Convention (June 20-22th in Denver) is open for registration and you can read about the great line-up of speakers [here](#). If you are unable to attend in person, consider "attending" the Virtual Convention (link [here](#)). Also, I am excited to remind you that the Educational Facilities Conference is in Lansing at the Kellogg Center again this year on June 17th and for those of you looking forward to a Mackinac Island vacation, the Mid Summer Conference is August 8-10 this year!

The AIA National Repositioning plans are being introduced at the local level and you will be hearing from your local chapter about a meeting soon. Many of you have wondered how this repositioning is different from any other initiative National has rolled out and I encourage you to visit the AIA National [webpage](#) dedicated to the Repositioning for answers. The page includes guides on what the "Community Conversations" are meant to accomplish and even has videos of the AIA National Grassroots presentations and the ten areas of focus. If you spend a few moments on this page it should answer many of your questions and I am sure it will make the local chapter meetings more meaningful to you as well as result in a productive meeting for your chapter.

One last reminder, please be sure to answer the question of the month!

#### Chapter Focus: AIA Detroit

In 2013, AIA Detroit is continuing their efforts to position the chapter as an inclusive, involved and vibrant contributor to the city and its culture. This year AIAD is making a concerted effort to advance this focus with the development of exciting new programs to engage both the membership and the general public in the discussion and innovation of design.

The newly-formed Professional Affiliate (PA) Taskforce has paired with interior design groups (ASID and IIDA) to begin a series of networking and social events that will draw together the AIA and other organizations in the building industry. This event series begins May 1st, so be sure to check the new and improved AIAD [website](#) for details.

The Detroit Committee on the Environment (COTE) is accepting [Urban Chicken Coop Competition](#) entries through May 20th. This competition is free to enter and winners will have the opportunity to build and sell their coops at an upcoming green fair in June!

The Urban Priorities Committee (UPC) has partnered with the Jefferson East Business Association (JEBA) for the ["Jazzin' on Jefferson" event](#) supporting entrepreneurship and design in the city. The event will include retail pop-ups of façade redesigns, collaborative staging and other unique enhancements to formerly vacant storefronts.

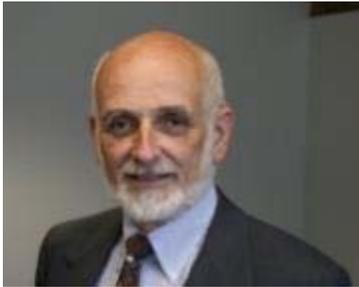
The summer of new and exciting events in the city will conclude with the AIAD Honor Awards, held this year in Shed 3 of the Eastern Market. The awards celebration will be a focal part of the Detroit Design Festival's "Eastern Market After Dark" event series. The change in venue will expose the AIAD Honor Awards and the celebration of architecture to a larger audience.

The Home Tours Committee has been in conversations with Pure Detroit to create a Building Tour committee focused on larger-scale programs and tours. Talks include having architects speak about building design and function to the public during guided tours with a focus on educating the public about design from an architectural point of view.

Technology Architectural Practice (TAP) has been formed to be a resource for technology and how it affects architectural practice. If you are interested in joining, the first meeting and goal-planning session will be in May, so check out the [website](#) for more details.

AIA Michigan and AIA Detroit EPC have teamed up to create A.R.E. Weekend Seminars FOCUSED on assisting emerging professionals across the state achieve licensure, regardless of chapter affiliation. This inaugural year will involve two events, the first the weekend of June 7th in Grand Rapids and the second in the Detroit area in October. The goal is to develop and expand the program to include more seminars in more locations across the state, so keep an eye out for announcements next week and spread the word!

#### Meet your AIA Michigan Board from the AIA Detroit Chapter:



**Joseph C. Veryser, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP** is the AIA Michigan 2013 Secretary and the Associate Dean and Campus Architect at the Lawrence Technological University (LTU) College of Architecture and Design. Joe, a licensed architect since 1972, received his Bachelor of Science in Architecture from LTU in 1976. After employment with several Detroit-area architectural firms, he joined Bell System in 1972 as a design and construction project engineer. He later became the Director of Architecture at LTU, from 1984 until his retirement from Ameritech. In 2004, he formally joined LTU and served as the Interim Dean of the College of Architecture and Design. He subsequently served as Associate Dean for the college, and today continues as University Architect, responsible for the coordination of the Campus Master Plan as well as the implementation of major capital undertakings. He is also the Director for the LTU Center for Sustainability. Joe is certified by the National Association of Architectural Registration Board and is currently licensed as an architect in multiple states. Additionally, Joe was the 2011 AIA Detroit President, is certified as LEED AP, and is a licensed Real Estate Broker in the state of Michigan.



**Victor Saroki, FAIA**, rounds out the 2013 AIA Michigan Executive Committee as the AIA Michigan 2013 Past President. Victor is president of Victor Saroki & Associates Architects, PC in Birmingham, and his dedication to the belief that architecture can be achieved at every level, from interior details to city spaces, has led to recognition of his work by over 60 design awards. A frequent lecturer on design for governmental planning boards and civic/art groups, he uses examples of his designs that improve the physical urban environment. Victor earned his degree at Lawrence Technological University in 1980 and in 2008 he received an honorary Doctor of Architecture from LTU, where he currently serves on the board of trustees. A past president of the AIA Detroit chapter, Victor is also active in the profession as a regular speaker and design juror at Lawrence Technological University, University of Detroit Mercy and University of Michigan.



**Michael Neville, AIA NCARB** is an AIA Michigan Director and the Executive Vice President and Partner at GHAFARI Associates, LLC, a full service architectural/engineering firm headquartered in Dearborn, Michigan. Mike graduated from Lawrence Technology University with a Bachelors of Science in Architecture. A 30-year professional, his GHAFARI responsibilities include leadership of the Project Management team, marketing, cost estimating, design/build teaming, 3D "LEAN" delivery systems, and account executive leadership. He presently holds architectural licenses in 17 states. Mike is GHAFARI's design/build project authority and principal, working with clients and contractors to ensure that these projects are properly proposed, and executed He was the principal in charge of over 22 major 3D Building Information Modeling (BIM) and Integrated Project Delivery Projects (IPD) throughout the world. The success of these applications has been recognized throughout the United States by several major publications and has received numerous awards from the following organizations (Engineering News Record, American Institute of Architects, Engineering Society of Detroit, Construction Association of America, Design Build Institute of America and Construction Industry Institute.



**Theo Pappas, AIA, LEED AP BD+C**, is an AIA Michigan Director and the Senior Planner at SHW Group. Theo is a graduate of the University of Michigan, with a Masters in Architecture with distinction (1980), and has served on many boards, including the Kensington Academy Foundation, and the Midwest Great Lakes Region of CEFPI, where he recently completed his term as its President. Theo has taught design at the University Of Detroit Mercy School Of Architecture and he is a Recognized Educational Facility Planner (REFP), LEED AP BD+C accredited, with a license for architecture in both Michigan and Ohio. Though the majority of his experience lies with the design of educational facilities, Theo also has a long history designing for the performing and visual arts, as well as a variety of other building types, such as public libraries, galleries, museums, government facilities, and historic preservation projects. In addition to having his own firm, Theo has worked with many other design firms over the years, including the internationally-renowned Minoru Yamasaki Associates and William Kessler Associates. In addition to his planning and design talents, Theo has strong leadership and management skills that he attributes to the experience of running his own office. He is a very enthusiastic individual with a special interest in the surrounding schools of architecture, and he is looking forward to bringing his perspectives to AIA at both the Michigan and Detroit level.



**Michael Poris, AIA**, is an AIA Michigan Director and the Principal Architect at McIntosh Poris Associates. Growing up in Detroit, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Michigan and then studied Modern Art History at Yale University. Michael earned his Masters in Architecture from the Southern California Institute of Architecture in Los Angeles. After working with architectural design firms including Cesar Pelli & Associates, Morphosis Architects, Frank Israel Design, Frank O. Gehry Associates, and Richard Meier & Associates, Michael returned to Detroit in 1994 to join his childhood friend, the late Douglas McIntosh, to form McIntosh Poris Associates with the hope and vision of making a difference in Metro Detroit. Michael has led his award-winning firm in the completion of a wide range of projects, from private homes to large-scale master plans.



**Ben Tiseo, FAIA, NCARB** is an AIA Michigan Director and the President of Tiseo Architects, Inc. Ben has been President of his own architectural firm and taught architecture at Lawrence Technological University (his alma mater) since 1980. Ben became an AIA Detroit Director starting in 1991 and transitioned into the position of AIA Michigan Director in 1993. Ben not only has served on, but chaired numerous AIA committees, including AIA Michigan's Government Affairs Committee, a group in which he is still an active member and for which he is a constant and consistent advocate.

## The Grapevine

**Tiseo Architects, Inc.**, of which **Ben Tiseo, FAIA** is the President, received certification as a Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) from the US Department of Veterans Affairs.

**The Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc.** office in SE Michigan has relocated to: 39500 MacKenzie Drive, Suite 100, Novi, Michigan 48377.

**Lise Newman, AIA** has joined the **SmithGroupJJR** Detroit office as Workplace Studio Leader. She can be reached at 313.442.8285 and [lise.newman@smithgroupjjr.com](mailto:lise.newman@smithgroupjjr.com).

**Neumann/Smith Architecture** has announced that it will open a studio in downtown Detroit's Wright Kay Building. The firm plans to occupy the third floor of the building in June. (Article [here](#)).

**Congratulations, Dennis King, FAIA!**

Dennis King, FAIA has been actively involved in the AIA for many years, he has even served as the AIA Michigan President in 2007, and is a guiding force on many boards and committees. Dennis held leadership positions at Harley Ellis Devereaux for over two decades but made the decision to retire from HED this month. But anyone who thinks he has given up being a dynamic leader would be seriously mistaken! Taking a step back does not mean he has slowed down: Dennis has formed DMKING Consulting, LLC and his new company allows him to lend his experience to established companies and growing organizations alike and utilize his building industry and leadership experience to develop businesses and develop strategic planning initiatives. We at AIA Michigan want to thank Dennis for continuing to be such a vital, active part of our membership and wish him the best in this new endeavor.

If you want to reach Dennis, email him at: [dennis@DMKINGconsulting.com](mailto:dennis@DMKINGconsulting.com).

### New AIA Michigan Members!

Welcome to our new members who joined, rejoined, or transferred to AIA Michigan from February 2013 through March 2013:

Kyle R. Blomquist, Assoc. AIA; Christopher R. Clanton, Assoc. AIA; Nicholas D. Cuozzo, Assoc. AIA; Joseph J. D'Agostini, Assoc. AIA; Anthony DeLaRosa, Assoc. AIA; Joseph V. Demski, Assoc. AIA; Frances C. DePalma, Assoc. AIA; Shannon L. Harte, Assoc. AIA; Marwan M. Houry, AIA; Michael J. Krebs, AIA; Mark S. McPherson, AIA; Michael J. Neuhalfen, Assoc. AIA; Jaclyn Zaborski, Assoc. AIA; Matthew McPhillips, AIA; Joseph S. Novitsky, AIA; Daniel P. Schneider, AIA; Marie C. Sinco, AIA; Joseph A. Valeri, AIA

Welcome to AIA Michigan and we look forward to meeting you at future events!!

### Upcoming Events

- June 14, 2013: AIA Michigan Design Awards, Ann Arbor
- June 17, 2013: AIA Michigan Educational Facilities Conference, Lansing
- June 20-22, 2013: AIA National Convention, Denver
- August 8-10, 2013: AIA Michigan/AGC Mid Summer Conference, Mackinac Island

*Is there something new you want us to know about you or your firm?  
Is there an event or project you want to share with the AIA Michigan Membership?  
Email [christine@aiami.com](mailto:christine@aiami.com) and check out our [calendar](#) for the latest events!*

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