



Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice

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SCIPping Along

September 2007

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP
Editor

Welcome to Fiscal Year 2008 and the first of several *SCIPping Along* Newsletters that are intended to keep members informed about the activities of the organization during the year. In order to receive this newsletter, members need to keep their email address and other contact information up-to-date by informing Dave Metzger of any changes. Here's to a good year! sdh

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dennis J. Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED-AP, SCIP

With my first year as SCIP President and a successful 2007 SCIP Annual Meeting in the bag, we head into our final year at the helm of SCIP. The SCIP Board held a planning meeting on August 2nd via telephone conference call to plan for standard business items as well as long range planning. Old business items included approving our FY08 budget, and submitting our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws to our attorney for filing with the Secretary of State in Washington, DC. We have had excellent response from a number of individuals wishing to serve as SCIP Affiliate Director and a special election will be held this fall. The Board also approved guidelines for a sponsorship program and they are being sent for legal review. We also approved funds for continued update of the SCIP website.

The Board this year wanted to look at the role of SCIP in the profession and how we can work smarter to promote our membership and specifications consulting. This year SCIP will have a presence at several other organizations' national conventions including the American Institute of Architects, Society of American Registered Architects, Construction Specifications Canada, Ecobuild, and of course the Construction Specifications Institute. This presence will include speaking, exhibit hall booth, or attendance as an invited guest. We are beginning to develop a new SCIP promotional brochure and are engaged in discussion with an advertising/marketing firm. With this in mind, we are seeking photographs of projects from members for the brochure. Photography can be in electronic form. We will need the name of the project, location, architect of record, specifications consultant, and photographer. Once we have selected the final projects, we will require a release for publication.

SCIP and NIBS will be playing a major role in EcoBuild Federal and FedSpec this December in Washington, DC. SCIP will also be hosting a specifier's forum during the conference to exchange ideas and good practice tips. Please check your calendars for the second week of December. The educational sessions look very interesting and this should be worth your time to attend.

In planning for the future of SCIP we are looking for future leaders. John Regener is chairing the Nominating Committee this year and if you are interested in serving or would like to recommend someone for office, please do not hesitate to contact John. SCIP depends upon you.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP

Regarding SCIP Affiliate Member Director:

In compliance with the revised SCIP Bylaws that were approved at the SCIP annual meeting on June 19, 2007 in Baltimore, the position of Affiliate Member Director has been added to the SCIP Board of Directors. In the next SCIP election, to be held prior to the 2008 Annual Meeting, an Affiliate Member Director will be elected by the Affiliate Members of SCIP for a full term running from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010. In the meantime, an interim Affiliate Member Director is needed for the term ending June 30, 2008.

In an email message to all SCIP Affiliate Members on July 6, 2007 from SCIP Treasurer and Membership Committee Chair, David Metzger, FAIA, FCSI, SCIP requested those Affiliate Members interested in serving as the interim Affiliate Member Director to contact Past-President and Nominating Committee Chair, John Regener, AIA, CCS, CCCA, SCIP by September 5, 2007. Three Affiliate Members responded and they will be nominated for election as interim Affiliate Member Director.

Ballots will be prepared with brief biographical statements of the candidates and will be mailed in early October. The three candidates are:

Donald A. Harris, AIA, CCS, CCCA, CSI, of Baltimore, MD

Kristin Kennedy, NCARB, AIA, CCS, CSI, of Pittsburgh, PA

William C. Pegues, FCSI, CCS, CSI, of Washington, DC

The voting period will run until October 31, 2007, by which date completed ballots must be transmitted to the SCIP Secretary via First Class Mail or by electronic mail. A plurality of valid votes cast will determine the winner. Election results will be announced to SCIP Members and Affiliates on or before November 11, 2007.

If there are questions or comments, please contact Past-President / Nominating Committee Chair John Regener, AIA, CCS, CCCA, SCIP.

TREASURER'S REPORT & MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

David Metzger, FAIA, FCSI, CDT, SCIP

We had a well-attended SCIP annual meeting at the CSI Convention in Baltimore. About 90 SCIP folks signed up for the lunch and BIM seminar, and there were at least that many members and guests for the SCIP dinner--our best turnout ever. Especially gratifying was the number of new faces attending their first SCIP meeting. The most enjoyable part of serving as SCIP treasurer is corresponding with members from all over the country, and then meeting them in person at the annual meeting.

The exposure that SCIP has been getting from our raised profile and seminar sponsorships, as well as our changed Bylaws, has resulted in increased membership. We have had 22 new Members and Affiliates join so far in FY 2008. Taking into account those members who had not renewed by August 31, we now have a total membership of 208, consisting of 159 Members and 49 Affiliates.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

David Lorenzini, FCSI, CCS, SCIP – VICE PRESIDENT, COMMUNICATIONS

A presentation of the new member database was made during the SCIP Forum at the CSI Convention in Baltimore. Since there was no Internet connection, a slide presentation was prepared with links to a sequence of screen shots that simulated how the new database would work. Suggestions from the audience for improvements were very helpful, but are beyond the scope of the original developer contract and will have to be implemented with volunteer help. This may take a few months more to complete, but the results will be more user-friendly and more applicable to member needs.

Since the web site will be transferred to a new Internet Service Provider to implement the new features, there will be additional testing to make sure the current web pages function as intended in the new location. Once it has passed a trial period by the board members, it will go live. After the database is introduced, we plan to help members who may need extra support to update their profiles. Currently, new website goals and priorities are being developed for fiscal year 2008 and beyond.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Linda Stansen, CSI, CCS, SCIP – VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION

The SCIP Board has decided that to better serve our membership we should begin to offer educational sessions of particular relevance to specifiers and writing specifications. To that end, as VP of Education, I am looking for a few volunteers to help in making policy and creating direction for such sessions. Ideas that have surfaced to-date include the following:

<u>TARGET AUDIENCE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
Architects	How to work with and communicate with your specifier
SCIP Membership	Training our clients to communicate the needs of the project
	Financial management for specifiers
	Business promotion tools
	BIM and specifier interface – what our future looks like
	How to conduct training and education of other groups
Vendors	How to write a useful guide specification
	How to hire a specifier to write a guide specification
IDP Interns	Purpose of specifications
	How to read specifications
	How to write specifications
Special Interests	Purpose of specifications
(e.g. IFMA, Facilities Mgrs)	Materials for guidance in creating model specifications
Industry Organizations	Use of specifications
	Model specifications

Anyone interested in helping move forward on this initiative, please contact me at stanspecs@comcast.net, or at 650.570.6411. I look forward to hearing from you!

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