



COUNTRY REPORT
FOR THE 29TH ARCASIA COUNCIL MEETING
28 – 29 October 2008, Busan, KOREA

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE

The Singapore Institute of Architects is a professional organisation established in 1961 with the objective to promote the architectural profession and the built environment in Singapore. The Institute is the sole representative for the architectural profession in Singapore.

The Institute's Mission is "***To champion excellence in architecture and the built environment***" and our vision is to see "***Singapore as an Architecture Capital***".

The Institute's general objectives are:

1. To generate in our community a greater awareness and appreciation of the value of good design in their built environment and daily lives
2. To advance the theory and practice of architecture through the support and reward for quality research and innovation in architectural design, practice and education
3. To continually upgrade the level of professionalism among architects in order to better serve our community
4. To promote solidarity among architects through a collective vision of working towards a dignified and caring profession that upholds a high standard of professional conduct and ethics.

COUNCIL 2008/2009

President	Tai Lee Siang
First Vice President	Ashvinkumar s/o Kantilal
Second Vice President	Ong Tze Boon
Honorary Secretary	Theodore Chan
Honorary Treasurer	Tan Shao Yen
Immediate Past President	Rita Soh
Council Members	Darren Benger Chan Kok Way Cheong Yew Kee Khoo Peng Beng William Lau Lim Choon Keang Ongkowitzjaja Setyadi Siew Man Kok Tan Beng Kiang Yap Mong Lin Larry Ng

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

The membership of the Institute consist of Honorary Fellow Members, Fellow (Life) Members, Fellow Members, Fellow (Retired) Members, Corporate Members, Corporate (Retired) Members, Associate Members, Student Members, and Allied Members. Only Fellow and Corporate Members have voting rights.

Membership	Year 2008 (as of August 2008)
Honorary Fellow	5
Fellow	22
Fellow (Life)	7
Corporate	786
Associate	105
Fellow (Retired)	2
Corporate (Retired)	37
Student	181
Allied	2
TOTAL	1147

BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE

The main source of revenue is from membership's subscription. Other sources of revenue include sales of publications, advertisements in the SIA magazine, "Singapore Architect", SIA Awards, CPD programme, SIA Annual Dinner event and SIA Annual Golf Tournament. The Administration and Finance Committee, comprising the Office Bearers, is responsible for the administration and financial management of the Institute

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / CONGRESS OF THE INSTITUTE

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held once a year before 31 March to elect the new Council. The outgoing Council will present both operational and financial reports to the general membership. As and when necessary, an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be convened to transact specific business. From time to time during the year, members are invited to specific dialogues to obtain feedback.

LEGAL STATUS OF THE INSTITUTE

The Institute is recognised as the sole body representing the architectural profession in Singapore. However, it is a professional body with no statutory power.

LEGAL STATUS OF THE ARCHITECT

The word, "Architect" or any of its derivatives is protected under the Architects Act, enacted by the Government. Any person with recognised architectural qualifications can register with the Board of Architects as a "Registered Architect". After registration, a Registered Architect can then apply for a practice licence to practise architecture. An architect must obtain 20 credit points per year to renew the practice license. The licence is renewed every year. The current licensing fee is S\$200 per year. The licensing fee for corporation is S\$500 per year.

ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION AUTHORITY

The registration body is the Board of Architects, Singapore. The common route for registration is via recognised qualifications, two years practical experience, and passing the professional practice examination.

A person can also apply for register if he possesses such practical experience in architectural work for not less than 5 years as may be recognised by the Board. The 5 years may include such prescribed practical experience in architectural work in Singapore for not less than two years comprising a continuous period of at least 12 months gained within the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application for registration under the Act.

A 3rd route is when a person possesses such practical experience in architectural work for not less than 10 years and has been recognised internationally with outstanding works as may be recognised by the Board.

The Board of Architects is currently reviewing the structure of the Board, with a view to involve more private sector participation.

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Promoting good relations with architectural institutes in other countries is a key objective of the Institute. This is conducted through maintaining regular rapport and exchange of information. The SIA is a member of the International Union of Architects (UIA), the Architects Regional Council of Asia (ARCASIA), the ASEAN Association of Planning and Housing (AAPH) and the International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI). These professional organisations have enabled the Institute to keep in touch with the development of architecture and the profession in other parts of the world and have provided a forum for exchange and sharing of views with sister institutes.

SIA WORKPLAN 2008/2009

The Council continues to pursue the 4 key Strategic Thrusts set out in 2007/2008.

Practice – The key aspects include promoting design competition, to promote equitable conditions of appointment, to promote technical competency, to engage in proactive policy formulation

Design – Principally to attain design leadership, to promote excellence in architecture through recognition, awards, research and innovation

Education – The key aspects include continuing professional development and promoting quality architecture education.

Institution – The main emphasis is to enlarge membership, to increase opportunities, to enhance SIA-industry partnership, to promote globalization, to promote positive image of the profession

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

ArchiFest 2008

Following last year's success, SIA organizes the 2nd Singapore ArchiFest from 6 to 24 October 2008

The Singapore ArchiFest is an annual festival for the city to celebrate the built environment. This will be a precursor for the Singapore Architecture Biennale in 2010. The main aim of the festival is to provide a platform to breed a vibrant design culture, and consequently a design conscious society, by encouraging and guiding the general public and design professionals of all fields to interact in a fun and free atmosphere.

Singapore ArchiFest strives to promote the importance of architecture and urban design, which are playing an increasingly important role in the global competition among cities. It will foster a sense of community to harness the common goals and vision towards the making of an exciting Singapore, by bringing together the architects, planners and associated professionals to share future directions. Finally the myriad of activities aim to educate and engage the general public, as well as enthuse and motivate students, who are key in shaping the society and culture, in city planning and architecture.

The theme for ArchiFest 08 is Man + Environment. This theme re-examines the relationship of Architecture with the Environment. This complex relationship encompasses context, genius loci, history, culture, economics, and technology to the growing concern about the role of Architecture in the degradation of our environment that could contribute to global warming, climate change, displacement and alienation. These are clear and present issues facing many countries all over the world. It is therefore befitting and timely to adopt the theme "Man + Environment", for this year's ArchiFest 08, to drive home the point for balancing mankind's needs and the environment.

Practice Convention

SIA will be holding the inaugural Practice Convention on 26 & 27 February 2009. This 2-day event set to be a bi-annual convention for architects locally and overseas together with our allied professionals to share and exchange information on practice matters. It also aims to be a platform to outreach to the public and create awareness on the role of an architect.

The convention will deliberate on topics such as

- Services procurement
- Contract Administration
- Project Management
- Code of Ethics
- Globalisation and Business Development
- SIA's initiatives to address practice issues

Architecture Practice Course

Architecture Practice Course was conducted by SIA to prepare architectural graduates for the Professional Practice Examination (PPE) in order to become a registered architect in Singapore.

In 2007, SIA Board of Architecture Education (BAE) Committee was tasked by the Board of Architects Singapore (BOA) to revamp the existing PPE course, by widening the scope of the course together with more in-depth coverage, with the

primary objective of raising the standard of professional knowledge of PPE candidates. The course was restructured to a 6-month evening-classes (total 24 sessions) incorporating both lectures and hands-on practice workshops. The course curriculum includes the following topics:

- Inception
- Feasibility
- Planning Submission
- Building Plan Submission
- Detail Design
- Production Information
- Tender Conditions
- Tender Action
- Site & Contract Administration
- Procurement of TOP/CSC
- Maintenance Period / Defects Liability
- Closing out of project
- Professional Maturity

Looking ahead, SIA hopes that the Architectural Practice Course will evolve into a formal professional qualification (ie. Graduate Certificate (or Diploma) in Architectural Practice (GCAP) and be the impetus for the SIA Architecture Academy. The GCAP title may be conferred upon participants who fulfill the requirements and successfully complete the course. The requirements may include assessment and examinations. Upon conference of the Diploma and candidates may be entitled to use the GCAP initials as another professional qualification attached to their name.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN COMPETITIONS

9th SIA Architectural Design Awards

The most prestigious award conferred by SIA to promote and encourage distinction in architectural design, the Awards recognizes the achievements of SIA members in their pursuit of architectural excellence and motivates architects to push the boundaries with innovative solutions.

The results for the 9th SIA Architectural Design Awards were announced at the 47th SIA Annual Dinner on Wednesday 21 May 2008. A total of 7 Design Awards and 14 Honorable Mention are awarded in 6 categories, with two new awards, "Best Project Below S\$1 Million Construction Cost" and "Building of The Year".

SIA-NParks Skyrise Greenery Awards

This inaugural Awards is jointly organized by SIA and National Parks Board. It aims to promote and recognize the greening efforts in highrise developments in Singapore by the joint efforts of the Owner / Developer, Landscape Architect / Designer, Architect and Landscape Contract Manager.

The results for the SIA-NParks Skyrise Greenery Awards were announced at the ArchiFest Networking Party on Friday 17 October 2008. A total of 4 Awards were presented.

SIA-Hunter Douglas "Eco Friend Awards"

Jointly organized by SIA and Hunter Douglas, the SIA-Hunter Douglas Awards was introduced to promote creative use of sustainable products. The Awards invite architects to submit an environmentally design that highlights the creative use of any

sustainable products and building materials possibly with Hunter Douglas or other brands, in standard applications such as ceilings, claddings and sun louvers, and in innovative new applications.

The results for the SIA-Hunter Douglas “Eco Friend Awards” were announced at the ArchiFest Networking Party on Friday 17 October 2008. 1 Award and 2 Honorable Mentions were awarded.

SIA-Philips Green Innovation Award

Jointly organized by SIA and Philips, this inaugural award aims to drive adoption of innovative sustainable design in Singapore by providing a platform for architects to showcase their innovations and recognizing industry leaders who champion innovative, yet sensible, green solutions, in their projects.

The results for the SIA-Philips Green Innovation Award were announced at the ArchiFest Networking Party on Friday 17 October 2008. There was 1 winner for the Award.

SIA-Getz Architecture Prize

The SIA-Getz Architecture Prize for Emergent Architecture in Asia is to honour bi-annually an architect who contributes to emergent architecture in Asia. In the last decade, Asia has seen an overwhelming rate of development. This is beginning to leave an impact in architecture history now as well as in the future. It is therefore timely to recognise and promote emergent Asian architects and architecture - in a similar way that Pritzker Prize has done for the worldwide community of architects.

The result for the 2nd SIA-Getz Architecture Prize was announced at the SIA-Getz Architecture Prize Dinner on 24 October 2008. The winner received a prize money of US\$30,000 and a specially designed medallion.

PUBLICATIONS

The Institute publishes regularly the following:

SIA e-Newsletter

This is a monthly e-Newsletter featuring newsworthy items to inform members on events, activities and other related matters.

Singapore Architect

This is a bi-monthly magazine, with the December Issue incorporating the profiles of member firms. This professional magazine publishes articles related to architecture and the built environment as well as commentaries on professional and academic matters. It is distributed free to members and also available in bookshops or by subscription.

Capability Profile

This annual publication seeks to profile firms with indication of the strengths, expertise and countries of operation. This will provide a suitable platform for firms to mutually seek out working partners. More importantly, it allows international clients and developers to easily find the right capabilities and practices for their projects.

Members' Directory

This is an annual publication featuring Members' listing. It is distributed free to members together with the Institute's Annual Report.

Policies News

An in-house circular to inform members on the latest development on government rules, regulations, codes and standards pertaining to the building industry. This is a useful source of information for architects and building professionals. In 2005, the Institute's created RCS Online Archive Service to allow members to search all the circulars received from the government agencies.

Other Publications

There are numerous other publications published from time to time, such as SIA Architectural Design Awards, SIA Form of Contracts, Conditions of Appointment and Mode of Payment, Specimen Forms and Certificates for use in conjunction with the Main Contract. etc., which are for sales to members and the public. The Institute had also produced Guidance Notes for the Main Contract as well as for the Nominated Sub-Contract.

ARCASIA CONGRESS 2010

SIA organised the 16th ARCASIA Council Meeting and Forum 8 in 1995 and the 22nd ARCASIA Council Meeting and Forum 11 in 2001. It is timely to host a bigger event like the ARCASIA Congress.

It is also an excellence opportunity to host this event in 2010 as it coincides with SIA 50th Year Anniversary Celebrations and the inaugural Singapore Architecture Biennale. Architecturally, it is also timely as the recent major projects in Singapore such as the two Integrated Resorts and the Sports Hub will all be ready.

SIA would like to seek ARCASIA's support to host the ARCASIA Congress 2010.