A Message from the 2004 Board President

2004 - A Year of Change, a Year of Transition

In 2004, changes were the norm at the Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects. The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) added several changes as well. The practice of Architecture continues to change as it reflects and morphs to the changes of society, the concerns for the environment, the geographic diversity of architects, and multiple state (and even other country) registrations.

The news from the State of Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects includes the retirement of Bill Wilcox, Continuing Education, and Rolling Clock for Registration Examination.

After 27 years as Executive Director of the Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects, Bill Wilcox, AIA retired in July, 2004. Amy Kobe, after six years as Executive Director of AIA Columbus, was selected as the new Board Executive Director. Amy brings a broad understanding of the profession and within her first weeks at the helm she was at the NCARB administrators' conference. This conference provided additional insight into the support and activities at NCARB and provided the opportunity for her to network with Directors from other states.

Ohio’s mandatory Continuing Education legislation is on the Governor’s desk for signature. While many Ohio Architects presently report all of their continuing education, we are aware that nearly all in daily practice exceed the typical minimum requirements. However, as a Board, we are well aware that those who come before us for a variety of potential violations of the rules for practice are not active in continuing education. Therefore, this legislation will encourage them to be better practitioners or allow us to take other appropriate actions. The end result for the public is a confidence in Architects not only meeting the requirements for initial registration but that the Architects have remained current. There are also direct benefits to the Architect with multiple state registrations. Many of the other states with Mandatory Continuing Education have differing requirements. However, most will defer to the architect’s home state Continuing Education requirements, this simplifies the reporting for registration renewal.

The national conference of NCARB was held in Portland. Several actions were taken affecting the profession. Over recent history, the examination has been transitioning from an education and practice based exam toward strictly practiced based. The underlying logic is most states now require a professional and accredited degree to sit for the exam. Therefore, NAAB by their accreditation of the school, and the school by the graduation of the candidate with an accredited degree, fulfill the education benchmark. Since the test is practice based and since the practice is now changing faster than ever before, a “rolling clock” for passing the examination will become effective January 1, 2006. It is a five year clock, that is, from the date a candidate passes the first section of the exam, they have up to 5 years to pass the last section. If they do not, only the sections not completed within the five year window require retake. Most candidates are currently passing within 3 to 4 years. And enough pass all sections within a year to validate the five year window as reasonable. The exam is updated as the profession changes; therefore, there are enough changes within the sections to also validate the need for a rolling clock to assure candidates are tested on the profession as it is at the time of passing.

Other issues under evaluation by the Board include electronic filing of documents for plan approvals, electronic seals, and electronic signatures. The Board is also investigating requirements for Architects in Design Build contracts to insure the Architect is identified, fining authority to the board for those breaking the laws and rules and communication with registrants regarding lapsed registration. As the profession evolves, the board must keep the requirements of registration current for the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Much of our direction as a Board is established at periodic planning sessions allowing the Board to focus beyond the normal agenda requirements. It is these sessions that enable us to set the future direction and goals for change in rules and legislation as the profession changes. The planning session was held January 20 and 21, 2005 in Columbus.

Please contact me or any other Board member if you have questions or other information for the Board.
Recent Retirements

Bill Wilcox Retires

After 27 years of service to the Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects and the Ohio Board of Landscape Architect Examiners, Bill Wilcox retired as Executive Director on July 9, 2004.

Wilcox is a registered architect and graduate of the University of Cincinnati, College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning, with a Bachelor of Architecture.

While in college, he worked for Knowlton Construction Company and W. Howard Manor, an architect in Bellefontaine where he grew up. About a year after graduation, he worked for the firm of Ballard H. T. Kirk and Associates for over 12 years before accepting the job with the Board. He succeeded Burt Stevens as Executive Director.

Wilcox served on numerous NCARB and CLARB committees during his tenure and was presented with the NCARB Presidential Medal for his distinguished service. Bill received recognition at his last NCARB annual meeting. He was recognized by the Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards at their 2004 annual meeting. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects, Columbus Chapter.

His future plans include travel with his wife, Charlotte, and completion of a program of the Presbyterian Church to become a commissioned lay pastor.

Myers Retires From Board

Merle M. Myers, AIA, Medina, retired from the Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects after serving two terms. Governor George Voinovich appointed Merle to the Board on February 9, 1995. He served as President of the board in 1998 and 2003, as well as every other office of the board.

As part of his service on the board, Myers has been with the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). He served on the Architecture Registration Exam (ARE) Grading Subcommittee from 2000—2003 and on the ARE Combined Vignettes Grading Task Force in 2004. He will continue to sit on the (ARE) Integrated Scoring Task Force through 2005.

A graduate of Kent State University, Myers is principal with Myers Associates Architects, Medina, Ohio, whose focus is primarily in the education, recreation, religious and municipal markets.

DID YOU KNOW...

Ohio's online license look-up is available via our website at www.arc.ohio.gov or directly at: https://license.ohio.gov/lookup/default.asp

All Firms must first register with the Secretary of State prior to registering with the Ohio Board of Architects. To find out more information on Secretary of State firm registration, including verification of your firm registration, go here: http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/busiserv/index.html
**Welcome**

*New Board Member Appointee*

Richard Fleischman

Governor Bob Taft has appointed Richard Fleischman, FAIA, from Cleveland, to the Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects for a term ending October 2, 2009. Fleischman is replacing Merle M. Myers, whose term expired.

Mr. Fleischman holds a Master of Science degree in Architecture from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology. Fleischman is the President and Lead Designer for Richard Fleischman + Partners Architects.

Mr. Fleischman has been involved in numerous private and public building programs throughout his professional career. He has participated in conferences and meetings as a speaker on national and local levels. As a member of the American Institute of Architects' (AIA) Committee on Architectural Education, he was chairman of the program on Post Occupancy Evaluation at educational and public facilities that gave a presentation to the National Convention. Mr. Fleischman is a Fellow in the American Institute of Architects, and has been the recipient of many honors and awards, both for his civic involvement, as well as recognition of his innovative architectural designs. He is also a recipient of the AIA Ohio Gold Medal Firm Award and the individual AIA Ohio Gold Medal Award for his personal achievement. His firm has also received three AIA Ohio 25-year awards for buildings designed with lasting value.

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*Amy Kobe*

Amy Kobe is the new Executive Director of the Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects, replacing William Wilcox, who retired in July 2004, after 27 years of service. Kobe brings to the Board over six years experience as Executive Director of the Columbus Chapter of The American Institute of Architects (AIA). AIA Columbus represents 750 professional and associate architects. During her tenure, AIA Columbus received the National AIA 2001 Continuing Education Systems Award of Excellence and 2003 National Associates Award.

Kobe’s prior posts include the Easter Seal Society, the American Red Cross of Newark, as well as prior civil service as a Social Program Developer for the Ohio Department of Public Welfare. Kobe graduated from Miami University with a bachelor’s degree in American Studies, and received a master’s degree in political science with a certificate in public administration from Ohio University.

She also serves as Executive Director of the Ohio Board of Landscape Architect Examiners.

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**Rule Change Affects A.R.E. Candidates**

A new rule regarding the Architect Registration Exam (A.R.E.) exam went into effect in Ohio on July 1, 2004. Candidates in the process of taking the A.R.E. must take at least one division of the A.R.E. within a five year period. This rule is slightly different from NCARB’s five year rule which states all exams must be completed within five years.

Candidates not meeting this requirement must write the Board to request an extension and explain why they have not met the five year time requirement. The Board may void the application.

If voided, a new application must be filed and the applicant must meet all current registration requirements. This includes the requirement of having a professional degree in architecture and completing IDP prior to taking the exam.

Candidates do not have to pass all portions of the A.R.E. within five years.

If you have questions, please contact the Board office.
Does Your Firm Have a Certificate of Authorization?
The Board will continue its enforcement efforts to ensure that every architectural firm providing services in the state of Ohio has obtained a Certificate of Authorization. It makes no difference whether the organization is located in Ohio or out of state. No firm, partnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation, except a corporation that was granted a charter prior to August 7, 1943, to engage in providing architectural services, or that otherwise lawfully providing architectural services prior to November 15, 1982, shall provide architectural services in Ohio.

As a rule of thumb, any firm formed after 1982 is required to hold a Certificate of Authorization. However, an architect practicing as a sole proprietor is exempt from this requirement. Certain restrictions and professional ownership requirements do apply. Applications and instructions can be downloaded from the Board’s website at www.arc.ohio.gov. If you are uncertain as to whether or not your firm is required to obtain a Certificate of Authorization, please call the Board at (614) 466-2316 prior to offering architectural services.

Are You Sealing Your Documents Properly?
The Board’s investigator continues to make random inspections of building departments throughout Ohio ensuring that architects are properly sealing all documents submitted for permit. This includes commercial and residential documents, revisions and spec books. Architects are only required to emboss the title page or first sheet of bound drawings, or loose sheets, then sign over the embossed seal with an original ink signature. Although not required, it is recommended for added protection to date and seal all sheets with a rubber stamp or computer generated seal. If you have any questions regarding sealing procedures, please call the Board at (614) 466-2316.

Use of the Term “Intern Architect”
Each year, the Board receives dozens of complaints regarding non-architect employees of architectural firms that are illegally using the job title “Intern Architect”, “Graduate Architect”, “Architectural Designer” or some combination thereof on business cards, promotional material or media press releases. Unless your employee is an architect, it is unlawful to advertise, promote or hold them out as an “Intern Architect” or use any derivation of the word architect. Should you have any questions, please call the Board office at (614) 466-2316.

Want to File a Complaint?
The Board actively investigates complaints against architects, architectural firms and unlicensed persons for violation of Ohio’s laws and regulations regarding the practice of architecture. If you have evidence of a possible violation, you are encouraged to file a complaint, provide information or discuss the matter further with the Board’s Investigator. Complaint forms can be downloaded from the Board’s website. If you want to file a complaint, please contact: Chad B. Holland, Investigator. Telephone: (614) 466-2316, fax, (614) 644-9048, email, choll@mail.peps.state.oh.us.
ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

The Board has taken action concerning the following individuals and firms. Although every effort is made to ensure the information is correct, before making any specific decision based upon this information, you should check with the Board office to ensure accuracy. The listing may not reflect a change occurring near or following the publication date. Further, the listing does not reflect pending appeals for hearings or rehearings.

No. 04-06 A non-architect allegedly violated Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H), which prohibit non-architects and non-architectural firms from advertising, offering or providing architectural services. This individual allegedly was holding himself out as a “residential architect” via a business website. This matter was amicably resolved whereby the individual agreed to delete any reference to being an architect.

No. 04-07 After an investigation, the Board determined that an Ohio architect allegedly had provided architectural services with a license that had been lapsed for over 3 years, which is a violation of Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H). This matter was resolved whereby the Board reinstated the license and required the architect to complete the “Professional Conduct” monograph.

No. 04-08 An architect was discovered to have allegedly provided architectural services through a firm that did not possess certificate of authorization, which is a violation of O.R.C. 4703.18 (H). After an investigation, the matter was amicably resolved with the architect applying for, and receiving a certificate of authorization.

No. 04-09 William Badillo, Cleveland, Ohio
Please be alerted that non-architect, William Badillo, of Cleveland, Ohio, has allegedly engaged in fraudulent activity involving the unlicensed practice of architecture, which is a violation of Ohio Revised Code sections, 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H). Mr. Badillo falsely represented himself as an architect to an unsuspecting client in the Brunswick, Ohio area. Then for a fee, he prepared construction drawings for the client’s commercial building and stamped said drawings using a “phony” architectural seal bearing his name. Should you or your staff come into contact with Mr. Badillo, know his place of employment, or review construction documents bearing a “phony” architectural please call the Board immediately.

No. 04-12 An architect was discovered to have allegedly provided architectural services through a firm that did not possess certificate of authorization, which is a violation of O.R.C. 4703.18 (H). After an investigation, the matter was amicably resolved with the architect dissolving the firm.

No. 04-16 A non-architect allegedly violated Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H), which prohibit non-architects and non-architectural firms from advertising, offering or providing architectural services. This individual allegedly was advertising the provision of “architectural drafting services” in a local newspaper. This matter was amicably resolved whereby the individual agreed to delete any reference to “architectural drafting”.

No. 04-19 After an investigation, the Board determined that an Ohio architect allegedly had provided architectural services without utilizing a written contract for such services, which is a violation of O.A.C. 4703-3-09 (A). The Board resolved this matter by issuing the architect a letter reminding the architect to use written contracts in the future.

No. 04-20 This non-architectural firm allegedly violated Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H), which prohibit non-architects and non-architectural firms from advertising, offering or providing architectural services. This firm allegedly was advertising the provision of “architectural & engineering services” via their corporate website. This matter was amicably resolved whereby the company agreed to revise the language on their website and refer to it as “product application services”.

No. 04-21 The Board received a written complaint against an Ohio architect for allegedly not following the provisions of their written contract. After conducting an investigation, the Board determined that a technical violation might have been committed. The Board resolved this matter by issuing the architect a letter reminding the architect to be more cognizant of the laws and rules regarding written contracts. O.A.C. 4703-3-09 sets forth the provisions architects are required to follow regarding written contracts.

No. 04-22 James L. Dotson, Dotson Built Designs, LLC, Kent, Ohio
Mr. Dotson, a non-architect, allegedly violated Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H), which prohibit non-architects and non-architectural firms from offering or providing architectural services. Mr. Dotson allegedly engaged in practice of architecture by offering to provide architectural design services to a client for the design of a commercial building in the Rootstown, Ohio area. This matter was amicably resolved whereby he entered into a settlement agreement and agreed to cease and desist from such practices in the future until he is duly licensed as an architect.

No. 04-23 After an investigation, the Board determined that an Ohio architect allegedly had provided architectural services with a license that had been lapsed for over 3 years, which is a violation of Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H). This matter was resolved whereby the Board reinstated the license and issued the architect a letter reminding the architect to maintain a current license in Ohio.

No. 04-26 This non-architectural firm allegedly violated Ohio Revised Code sections 4703.06, 4703.18 (A) and 4703.18 (H), which prohibit non-architects and non-architectural firms from advertising, offering or providing architectural services. This firm allegedly was advertising the provision of “architectural planning services” via their corporate website. This matter was amicably resolved.
12/31/2003 EXPIRED REGISTRATIONS

Below is a list of Ohio registered architects, who were registered in the preceding renewal period, but who have not renewed their registration in the current registration renewal period. This list is published as a reminder that if you are not holding a current certificate to practice architecture, and are practicing or holding out as an architect, that you must renew your license to avoid penalties. If you have retired, please notify the board.

| A-0012845 Raymond D. Gignac | A-5602537 George E. Jamison | A-7305170 Timothy C. Davis | A-8307302 Sophia A. Gruzdys |
Ohio Board of Examiners of Architects
2005 Dates to Remember

January 20 - 21  Board Meeting and Retreat
                Columbus

March 4       Board Meeting
              Columbus

March 10 - 12  Mid-Central States Conference
               Milwaukee, WI

April 22      Board Meeting
              Columbus

May 19 - 22 AIA National Convention
            Las Vegas, NV

June 3        Board Meeting
              Columbus

June 22 - 25  NCARB Annual Meeting
              Miami Beach, FL

August 5      Board Meeting
              Columbus

Sept. 15 - 17  AIA Ohio Valley Region Convention
                Indianapolis, IN

September 23  Board Meeting
              Columbus

November 18   Board Meeting
              Columbus

State of Ohio
Board of Examiners of Architects
77 S. High Street, 16th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6108
Tel: 614/466-2316
Fax: 614/644-9048
website: www.arc.ohio.gov

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