

In many ways, the engine running NCARB is its highly structured committee system. Charged with a variety of responsibilities, standing committees and assigned task forces investigate, research, draft, and finalize policy changes for the consideration of the Council Board of Directors.

## New Task Forces Delve Into Hot Topics

Any seeds of change or refinement often burgeon in the NCARB committee/task force setting. And no where is this process more obvious than with four new task forces organized by current NCARB President H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA, for fiscal year 2005-2006.

### **IDP/ARE Task Force Looks at Exam and Experience Sequencing**

Exam and experience sequencing has been one of the most talked-about issues in recent memory. As this discussion reaches critical mass, several member boards and fellow collateral organizations have sought NCARB's position and feedback on this issue.

The NCARB Board of Directors has issued a policy position on exam timing (*reprinted on page 11*) that most likely will refine the long-standing division between completing the Intern Development Program (IDP) and sitting for the Architect Registration Examination (ARE). Much of the work behind the development of this policy can be credited to the IDP/ARE Task Force.

Under the leadership of Margot A. Woolley, AIA, a former member of the New York State Board of Architecture and a long-standing ARE Subcommittee volunteer, the IDP/ARE Task Force was asked to "obtain, tabulate, and compile all relevant studies, surveys, reports, statistics, etc., that relate to the timing of candidate eligibility for the ARE."

Task force members also compared IDP core competencies with the ARE test specification as a means to identify similarities and differences. ("Core competencies" broadly refer to the knowledge, skills, and abilities that are related to architectural practice. The ARE test specification is known as the "heart" of the exam. Each ARE division has its own specification from which exam questions are drawn.) Additionally, the task force reviewed the test specification in order to evaluate its practice-based content.

**IDP/ARE Task Force Members**

- Margot A. Woolley, AIA, Chair (New York)
- Alan W. T. Baldwin Jr., FAIA (North Carolina)
- Gordon E. Landreth, AIA (Texas)
- Daniel Redstone, FAIA (Michigan)
- Vance Travis, AIA (Tennessee)
- Scott C. Veazey, AIA, Board Liaison (Indiana)
- Stephen Nutt, AIA (NCARB Staff)
- Robert A. Rosenfeld (NCARB Staff)

**NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ISSUES ARE FOCUS OF GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE**

The newly formed Governance Task Force has been charged to investigate and comment on a number of important issues, with several drawn from NCARB member boards. Not only has the task force created a leadership development plan, it also has looked at ways in which the NCARB Board of Directors can better encourage diversity among its ranks.

Led by former NCARB Regional Director Stan Peterson, FAIA, of Kansas, the task force studied the operation and composition of the NCARB Board as well as the possibility of

- The task force has recommended to remove the requirement that each NCARB region be represented on the Committee on Examination.

**Governance Task Force Members**

- Stan Peterson, FAIA Chair (Kansas)
- William W. Herrin Jr., FAIA (Alabama)
- Denis A. Henmi, AIA (California)
- John M. Laping, FAIA (New York)
- William R. Ponko, AIA (Indiana)
- Peter Steffian, FAIA (Massachusetts)
- Douglas K. Engebretson, FAIA, Board Liaison (Massachusetts)
- Robert Rosenfeld (NCARB Staff)

**DISASTER RESPONSE TASK FORCE CONTEMPLATES A POST-KATRINA WORLD**

Encouraged by attendees at the September 2005 Member Board Chairs Conference, President Godsey established the Disaster Response Task Force in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Former NCARB Regional Director Stan Peterson also led this task force, which is

- William Tompkins Jr., AIA (Mississippi)
- Teeny Simmons, Member Board Executive (Louisiana)
- Robert E. Luke, AIA, Board Liaison (Mississippi)
- Dennis Flynn (NCARB Staff)

**WORKING TOWARD MUTUAL RECOGNITION: THE MRA/AUSTRALIAN TASK FORCE**

NCARB and its Australian counterpart, the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACA), originally ratified a Protocol for Practice in a Host Nation during the Council's June 2002 Annual Meeting.

By September 2003, both NCARB and the AACA had agreed upon requirements that would allow architects from each country to practice in the other while in association with a licensed architect. This development was the first step toward a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between the two regulatory authorities.

Fast-forward to fiscal year 2005-2006. A task force comprising current and former members of the NCARB Board of Directors was charged with determining whether the Australian Education System and Practical Experience Program was holistically equivalent to the Council's three-step process of education, experience, and examination.

Under the guidance of Past President C. Robert Campbell, FAIA, the task force met in September 2005 in order to complete its charges and report back to the Council Board of Directors. The task force's recommendation to move forward with an Australian MRA was supported by the NCARB Board during its October 2005 meeting. NCARB's full membership will vote on a draft version of the MRA during the 2006 Annual Meeting in Cincinnati.

**MRA/Australian Task Force Members**

- C. Robert Campbell, FAIA, Chair (New Mexico)
- Robert E. Luke, AIA (Mississippi)
- Douglas K. Engebretson, FAIA (Massachusetts)
- Michiel M. Bourdreux, AIA (NCARB Staff)
- H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA, NCARB President, *Ex-Officio* (Kentucky) **DC**

**President Godsey established the Disaster Response Task Force in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.**

adding a public member, a member board executive, and/or additional directors. The task force also considered the selection process for new board members.

Three additional task force charges have resulted in resolutions that will be considered during the 2006 Annual Meeting and Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.

- The task force has recommended that terms for NCARB's Secretary and Treasurer be reduced from two years to one year.
- The task force has recommended that the Finance/Management Committee be eliminated; its duties will be transferred to the already existing Executive Committee.

reviewing several aspects of disaster response, including actions taken by elected officials and government agencies that affected the work of architects and engineers; reactions from regulatory boards; and NCARB's effort to respond to major disasters.

The task force also is preparing a set of recommended guidelines should another man-made/natural disaster occur. Additionally, task force members are studying Good Samaritan laws on a state-by-state basis and comparing them to architect registration laws.

**Disaster Response Task Force Members**

- Stan Peterson, FAIA, Chair (Kansas)
- William Seider, AIA (Oregon)
- Mike Rodriguez, AIA (Florida)
- John Morton Jr., AIA (Louisiana)