

# NCARB's 2006 Annual Meeting and Conference: Diverse Topics Characterize Annual Meeting Agenda

The 87th annual gathering of NCARB Member Boards took place in Cincinnati, OH, which is known as the “Queen City of the West.” Meeting delegates considered a number of diverse issues as they helped to guide NCARB into its new fiscal year.

Cincinnati, OH, was the setting for NCARB's 87th Annual Meeting and Conference in late June 2006. One hundred forty-five delegates, representing 52 of the 55 Council jurisdictions, enjoyed three information-packed business sessions. They considered and voted on 13 resolutions; heard detailed reports on current Council initiatives from NCARB officers and senior staff; and contemplated a provocative keynote speech on digital technology and building information modeling (see *article on page 8*).

Other agenda items included a town hall-style question-and-answer session with members of the NCARB Board of Directors; the election of officers for Fiscal Year 2007; and a presentation from Montana State University, the grand prize winner of the 2006 NCARB Prize.

Delegates also had the opportunity to participate in several workshops, whose topics ranged from Council governance and leadership, efforts to streamline continuing education requirements, and IDP/ARE sequencing.

#### TIMING OF EXAM AND INTERNSHIP

Of particular importance to delegates was Resolution 06-12: “Model Law Amendment—ARE Timing,” which would update NCARB's Model Law by allowing parts of the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) to be taken during one's participation in the Intern Development Program (IDP). The ARE/IDP sequencing issue has generated a great deal of interest both within the Council and among the collateral organizations. Several member boards have sought a policy statement from NCARB in regard to this issue.



An amended version of Resolution 06-12 was approved by a majority of member boards. Region 5, the Central States Conference, offered an amendment that would delay any changes to the NCARB Model Law in order to “prepare implementation details” for the policy change. These details will be presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting and Conference.

#### **PASSING THE GAVEL**

At the beginning of his report to the delegates, outgoing Council president H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA, of Louisville, KY, humorously quipped, “You know, the trouble with being a leader is sometimes you can’t be sure whether people are following you or chasing you.” Godsey went on to detail a number of ongoing NCARB initiatives, such as the implementation of Strategic Plan objectives, and a number of completed tasks, including a policy statement on timing

examination and experience for emerging professionals and completed negotiations for three international agreements.

Godsey closed his speech by paraphrasing a notable quotation from Carl Sandburg: “I see NCARB, not in the setting of despair ahead of us, I see NCARB in the crimson light of a rising sun. I see great days ahead, great days possible to men and women of vision. I challenge all of you to have that vision.”

Incoming Council president Robert E. Luke, AIA, of Meridian, MS, addressed the group during the third business session. He described his approach for the new fiscal year in straightforward terms, noting, “My emphasis for next year is very simple: ladies and gentlemen, together we have made progress, but we can do better.” Luke also summarized

his goal for his presidential year by explaining that “interaction with NCARB for all must be a well-designed, positive experience.”

Under Luke’s leadership, NCARB will continue to improve the Architect Registration Examination and the Intern Development Program. The Council also will be improving its communication and performance metrics.

Once again, the yearly meeting of NCARB member boards proved to be an invaluable resource for attendees. The business of NCARB is dependent on the direction, guidance, and feedback gathered during the Annual Meeting.

NCARB’s 88th Annual Meeting and Conference will be held in June 2007 in Denver, CO. **DC**

At the close of NCARB's 87th Annual Meeting and Conference, Council President H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA (2005-2006), recognized six individuals for their significant contributions to the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare through their service to NCARB and to the practice of architecture.

## The 2006 President's Medalists

### Six Honored for Their Service to NCARB and the Profession of Architecture

First awarded in 1994, the NCARB President's Medal honors those individuals who dedicate a considerable part of their careers, energy, and wisdom to benefit the public and the architectural profession. The 2006 medalists are:

Working with their NCARB counterparts, **Stuart Howard, MAIBC**, current chair of the Committee of Canadian Architectural Councils, and **José "Pepe" Manuel Reachi Mora**, current president of the Federación de Colegios de Arquitectos de la República Mexicana, helped to guide the final phase of the Tri-National Mutual Recognition Agreement. After many years of negotiations, the agreement will provide a framework in which qualified U.S., Canadian, and Mexican architects can pursue practice opportunities in one another's jurisdiction. Both Howard and Mora fully supported this initiative. They were recognized for their commitment, work ethic, and friendship.

For several years, **Doreen Johnson Frost** has deftly led the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design as its executive director. In addition to her board-level responsibilities, Frost has earned a reputation as one of NCARB's hardest working and most generous volunteer committee members. She has

been named to the Member Board Executives (MBE) Committee by three different Council presidents and most recently served as MBE Committee chair. Frost was honored for her remarkably broad perspective and outstanding service to NCARB.

For more than 25 years, **Kim Brown Garrison** has been an integral member of the NCARB staff. She began her career at the Council as part of the Record Services directorate and steadily gained experience and knowledge of NCARB operations. Garrison currently is the senior manager of the professional development program, where she guides NCARB's well-regarded monograph series and serves as the "public face" of NCARB at local, regional, and national conferences. Garrison was recognized for her myriad contributions to NCARB and its wide-ranging constituencies.

Architect **Renis O. Jones Jr., FAIA**, of Montgomery, AL, was celebrated for more than 50 years of service to the profession of architecture, including five terms on the Alabama Board for Registration of Architects. As a well-respected regulator, Jones chaired the Alabama Board five times, served as regional chair of the Southern Conference, and was elected to the NCARB Board of Directors for two consecutive terms. He also has lent his knowledge and expertise to several Council committees, including the

Committee on Examination, which guides the development and administration of the Architect Registration Examination (ARE). Jones is a long-standing volunteer within the American Institute of Architects as well as a civic and community leader.

**C. Stan Peterson, FAIA**, an architect based in Topeka, KS, was honored as a dedicated and noteworthy regulatory leader. He completed a 13-year tenure on the Kansas State Board of Technical Professions, which he twice chaired. Peterson also is a former member of the NCARB Board of Directors as well as a former regional chair of the Central States Conference. His volunteer committee service include three years as a member of the Council's vital Procedures and Documents Committee (P&D) and two additional years as its chair. Under his leadership, P&D conducted a series of hearings on the responsibility for signing and sealing documents on architectural projects. Most recently, Peterson led the Governance and Disaster Response Task Forces, which addressed time-sensitive issues of great significance to NCARB. **DC**

FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:  
STUART HOWARD, MAIBC,  
JOSÉ "PEPE" MANUEL REACHI MORA,  
DOREEN JOHNSON FROST,  
KIM BROWN GARRISON,  
RENIS O. JONES JR., FAIA,  
C. STAN PETERSON, FAIA



## 2006 ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTIONS

**Resolution 06-1: "Bylaw Amendment—Assuring Confidentiality of ARE Related Materials."**  
Passed: 50-0-2.

**Resolution 06-2: "Bylaw Amendment—Clarifying the Timing for Ascertaining Qualifications of Regional Directors."**  
Passed: 51-0-1.

**Resolution 06-3: "Rules of Conduct Amendment—Clarifying the Resident Architect Office Requirement."**  
Passed as amended: 52-0-0.

**Resolution 06-4: "Bylaw Amendment—Reducing Terms of Office of Secretary and of Treasurer from Two Years to One Year."**  
Passed: 46-6.

**Resolution 06-5: "Bylaw Amendment—Elimination of the Finance/Management Committee and Transfer of Its Duties to the Executive Committee."**  
Passed: 48-3-1.

**Resolution 06-6: "Bylaw Amendment—Elimination of the Requirement That Each Region Have a Representative on the Committee on Examination."**  
Passed: 44-8.

**Resolution 06-7: "Model Law Amendment—Conforming Change to Legislative Guideline IV (A): NCARB Certificate Authorizing Reciprocal Registration."**  
Passed as amended: 50-1-1.

**Resolution 06-8: "Tri-National Agreement for Mutual Recognition."**  
Passed: 50-1-1.

**Resolution 06-9: "Architects' Council of Europe Agreement Toward Mutual Recognition."**  
Passed: 51-1.

**Resolution 06-10: "Australia Agreement for Mutual Recognition."**  
Passed: 50-1-1.

**Resolution 06-11: "Revisions to NCARB Education Standard."**  
Passed: 50-1-1.

**Resolution 06-12: "Model Law Amendment—ARE Timing"**  
Passed as amended: 45-6-1.

**Resolution 06-13: "Member Board Executive to Serve on the Board of Directors."**  
Not moved.

**Resolution 06-14: "Revocation of Northern Mariana Islands Council Membership for Failure to Pay Dues."**  
Passed: 43-3-6.

Annual Meeting keynote speaker Phillip G. Bernstein offered a thought-provoking look at the digital technology resources that are redefining the practice and regulation of architecture.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER PHILLIP BERNSTEIN, FAIA, DELIVERS HIS PRESENTATION "DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE NATURE OF PRACTICE" AT THE 2006 NCARB ANNUAL MEETING

## Keynote Speaker Explores Digital Technology and Its Effects on the Future of Architecture

During the first business session, self-professed "process geek" Phillip G. Bernstein, FAIA, LEED AP, deftly led Annual Meeting attendees through a detailed and provocative keynote presentation titled "Digital Technology and Building Information Modeling: Implications for the Nature of Practice." As the vice president of Autodesk's Building Solutions Division, Bernstein is guiding the firm's efforts to develop technology tools and associated digital data generation for the building industry.

### INFLUENCES AFFECTING THE PROFESSION

Bernstein began his address by identifying both "near-term transactional" and longer term influences on the profession. They include the state of the construction economy, government regulations, emerging markets, globalization, the emergence of engineering as a design discipline, sustainable design, and the growing formal complexity of projects.

As diverse as these influences may be, they can be linked to Bernstein's main contention. He explained, "Frankly, the big issue—I think the one we need to talk about today—[is] what we call integrated process or integrated deliv-

ery, which is the idea that the traditional barriers among design, construction, fabrication, and building operation are starting to break down. Those things will actually redefine what architects do."

### INTEGRATED PROJECT DELIVERY

By moving toward integrated project delivery methodologies, architectural practice most likely will be able to respond more effectively to the influences identified above. For example, Bernstein noted that the construction industry "has seen virtually no productivity enhancement like the rest of the world. Administration, agriculture, the technology business, banking—all of these industries have implemented significant productivity gains by IT, but the construction industry has not." At the same time, the industry often experiences an inefficiency ratio as high as 30 percent.

Taken together, these figures contribute to a very high "unhappiness quotient" among construction clients, especially those based in the United States. For Bernstein, integrated project delivery methodologies represent a means to increase productivity and efficiency within the construction industry.

### DEFINING BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING (BIM)

Transitioning to integrated project delivery methodologies will mean asking new questions about basic propositions of architectural practice: "What is the refined definition of instrument of service? How do you allocate risk? How do you structure projects? How does technology play? The methodologies we have used in the past to understand the design have got to change." And building information modeling (BIM) may be the best vehicle in which to drive such change.

Bernstein defined BIM as "deploy[ing] technology in the service of making a digital simulation of a building that creates a much more profound collaboration platform among all players in the process." He continued,

"Really, it's a very simple concept. All the information about the building goes into a database. All these things you see here, whether 3-D projections or structural engineering or traditional working drawings, are reports from that database. The database includes certain kinds of algorithms and understands low-level tasks like how to join two walls together or how to make





an opening in a wall so a window can go in. The basic transaction of design becomes much less about abstractions and sketching and more about entering information onto the database.”

### THE LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY

The advent of BIM and other technologically driven resources ultimately—and unsurprisingly—will reshape the profession and those entities regulating it. Daniel S. Friedman, FAIA, the current dean of the University of Washington’s College of Architecture and Urban Design, wrote, “If the architect is no longer the sole line of liability, no longer the single individual in the building, delivery, and life cycle process who understands and controls the relationship between the part and the whole, then what becomes of the architect’s fundamental privileges, claims, and responsibilities?”

After quoting Friedman, Bernstein explained that regulators may see the issue as “How will integrated project delivery affect the way in which practice is controlled” and “How are

architects trained to actually do their work.”

### Boundary Dissolution

In order to bridge these changes in perspective, Bernstein introduced the concept of “boundary dissolution.” He continued, “I want to suggest to you under the modeling that I have set forward the strategic thinking you need to be doing is around this question of what I call ‘boundary dissolution.’ Boundary dissolution is the breakdown of these models we have used to organize practice over the long term—including the breakdown between the design and the work, and the breakdown in the distinction between abstract strategy and the thing that gets built.”

### Foreseeability, Responsible Control, and Professional Competence

Bernstein also discussed “foreseeability” in terms of designing buildings digitally and in an integrated environment “where everyone’s opinion is important.” He explained,

“How can you reasonably foresee the outcomes and who takes the responsibility for [them]? Simultaneously with foreseeability is the question of responsible control. At the heart of the idea of

professional licensure is assigning responsibility for the control of the project to a professional whose judgment has been certified. The question becomes ‘what does that mean’ when the roles and relationships and responsibilities are all moving around.

I think the basic question that has to be designed, therefore, is what is the definition of professional competence? In this model we’re seeing that so many things are changing. . . . I’m talking about fundamentally different ways of thinking about design proposition. How do you redefine competence? What is the new definition of competence?”

As the profession and its regulators begin to answer such questions, the steady march toward implementing BIM and related technologies will continue. Bernstein encouraged his audience to face these changes head-on in order to be part of the inevitable transition. **DC**

### Introducing the 2006-2007 NCARB Board of Directors

*Front Row:* Past President, H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA, Louisville, KY; Executive Vice President, Lenore M. Lucey, FAIA, Washington, DC; President, Robert E. Luke, AIA, Meridian, MS; First Vice President, Douglas K. Engebretson, FAIA, Springfield, MA; Second Vice President, Gordon E. Mills, FAIA, Dubuque, IA; Region 5 Director, Mark I. Aspaas, Sioux Falls, SD; Secretary, Peter T. S. Rasmussen, FAIA, Tacoma, WA; and Region 1 Director, Robert A. Meyer, AIA, Manchester, VT. *Back Row:* Treasurer, Andrew W. Prescott, AIA, Potomac,

MD; Region 2 Director, Stephen L. Parker, AIA, Bethesda, MD; Region 4 Director, Scott C. Veazey, AIA, Evansville, IN; Region 6 Director, Kenneth J. Naylor, AIA, Salt Lake City, UT; and Region 3 Director, Jeffrey A. Huberman, FAIA, Charlotte, NC.

### Council Elects FY07 Officers and Welcomes New Directors

During the 2006 Annual Meeting business sessions, delegates welcomed three new officers and two newly installed regional directors. Officer nominees ran unopposed and were elected by acclamation.

# Workshops Explore a Diverse Field of Topics

Amid business sessions, regional meetings, and networking opportunities, Annual Meeting delegates had their pick of 10 workshops that explored a number of ongoing NCARB initiatives. Several workshop topics were associated with the newly revised Strategic Plan.

## ARE UPDATE

A workshop on the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) provided an overview of future improvements for all aspects of the exam—development, administration, and delivery. Stephen Nutt, AIA, director, professional development, shared details about ARE 4.0, which will debut in summer 2008, and about the upcoming Practice Analysis update, which will begin in February 2007.

## IDP: A BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE

Newly elected NCARB Treasurer Andrew W. Prescott, AIA, led a workshop on Council efforts to “re-examine its responsibility to better serve the evolving needs of emerging professionals.” As the 2005-2006 co-chair of the Intern Development Program Coordinating Committee (IDPCC), Prescott has been at the forefront of discussions concerning the relevance of IDP.

## FACT OR FICTION?

### IDP TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

Robert A. Rosenfeld, director, record services, and Stephen Dent, AIA, the 2005-2006 chair of the IDP Committee, discussed efforts to improve the accuracy and relevance of IDP training documentation. The retroactive documentation of IDP training currently is accepted by most jurisdictions and NCARB without restrictions. The Council’s IDP Committee is

looking at possible measures to improve this critical component of the IDP experience. Workshop attendees offered their feedback on potential changes. This is an ongoing issue that will continue to be studied during the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

## IDP/ARE SEQUENCING— IMPLICATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Workshop participants were encouraged to share their thoughts about the NCARB Board of Directors’ policy allowing some parts of the ARE to be taken while an individual is completing IDP. Incoming NCARB President Robert E. Luke, AIA, offered a rationale for the policy and discussed its potential effect on IDP, NCARB certification, reciprocal registration, and public protection.

## THE NCARB CERTIFICATE, THE GOLD STANDARD CREDENTIAL

Michiel M. Bourdreux, AIA, director, education and international services, provided an overview of the rigorous process by which architects qualify for NCARB certification. During this workshop’s interactive discussion, participants shared their thoughts on increasing the value of the NCARB Certificate—both among member boards and within the profession.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION:

### YOURS, MINE, AND OURS

Workshop attendees discussed the often frustrating task of trying to meet different jurisdictional requirements for continuing education. With reciprocal registration as a goal, member boards were encouraged to work toward accepting one another’s requirements.

## COUNCIL GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Governance Task Force Chair Stan Peterson, FAIA, led a lively discussion about task force recommendations addressing the composition of the NCARB Board of Directors, term length for NCARB officers, and time requirements for the NCARB President and President-elect, among other topics.

## EXPLORING IMPLICATIONS OF EVOLVING PRACTICE: DEFINING COMPETENCE FOR TOMORROW’S ARCHITECTS

Keynote speaker Phillip Bernstein, FAIA, continued his discussion about digital technology and its influence on architectural practice and regulation. Attendees also shared their questions and feedback on Building Information Modeling (BIM) and related resources.

## INTERNATIONAL UPDATES

NCARB Past President H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA, detailed the three international agreements up for ratification during the Annual Meeting’s third business session. This workshop provided attendees a forum in which to ask questions about the respective agreements with Mexico and Canada, the European Union, and Australia. All agreements ultimately were ratified by a majority of NCARB member boards.

## SURFING NCARB

Kim Kerker, assistant director, communications/art director, shared the ins-and-outs of NCARB’s comprehensive web-based resources—namely its public and private web sites. Workshop attendees were encouraged to familiarize themselves with the wealth of online information available to them. **DC**

