

SOCIETY OF BUILDING SCIENCE EDUCATORS SBSE NEWS FALL 1997



photo: Jeff Cook

The Academy of Architectural Science discussion raged beneath California live oaks.

RETREAT IN RETROSPECT

This year's retreat had a three-pronged agenda—continuing education for practitioners, the Academy of Architectural Science, and teaching and research experiences.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

We completed our first field practicum in presenting professional education workshops, and the grades are in. A questionnaire was sent to the 30 paid attendees: 13 architects responded (not quite 45%). A compilation of results will be available soon from Murray Milne <milne@ucla.edu>. Overall, the responses were quite positive; here are some highlights.

Attendees considered the continuing education credits "a nice bonus" for an economically reasonable experience and graded each session "B" or higher. "Especially enjoyed the interaction portion; the session needed more time . . . Too much to digest in one session." Therefore, it was no stretch to imagine that most of the participants would attend another SBSE-sponsored workshop or distance learning opportunity.

When asked, "What did you like most about the workshops?" participants offered: "Small groups with more individual participation. . . . The potential was there for participants to engage in original thinking. . . . The actual hands-on experience. . . . The opportunity to meet architectural educators and learn what steps are being taken to upgrade the current architecture curricula. . . . The sense that there are numbers of practitioners who care about these issues." To the question, "What were the workshops' weaknesses, and how would you resolve them?" attendees claimed: "Watson and Franklin expected the group to generate most of the ideas; there could have been more leadership. . . . Too little time to absorb all the information. . . . Not enough information given about the content of the workshops to be presented. I suggest a short presentation given by all workshop leaders prior to selection." Furthermore, all of the practitioners agreed that participation with SBSEers and the setting at the "Oasis" were excellent.

—Murray Milne
• continued page 4

SBSE CALENDAR

1997

- Sep 15 ACSA Technology Conference papers due
- Nov 1 Inauguration of SBSE officers
- Nov 7 ARCC/ACSA Research Forum; Washington, DC
- Dec 1 ASES Solar '98 abstracts due

1998

- Mar 13–14 ACSA Technology Conference; Cleveland, OH
- Jun 13–18 ASES Solar '98; Albuquerque, NM
- Jun 18 Annual Meeting; Albuquerque, NM (5 p.m., Thursday, June 18)
- Jun 18–21 Summer Retreat; Taos, NM

ELECTION RESULTS

We received 46 valid ballots from SBSE members. New officers' terms begin November 1, 1997. Congratulations to:

- President-Elect: Walter Grondzik
- Treasurer: Terri Meyer-Boake

Margot McDonald becomes SBSE President when Mary Guzowski steps down on November 1. Thanks to Mary and Leonard Bachman for their excellent service! ■

—Margot McDonald

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thought parts of this might be entertaining. It was forwarded by one of my students.

HOW COLD IS IT?

an annotated thermometer (°F/°C)

+50/+10	New Yorkers turn on the heat, North Dakotans plant gardens.
+40/+4	Californians shiver uncontrollably, North Dakotans sunbathe.
+15/-10	You plan a vacation in Acapulco, North Dakotans go swimming.
-38/-39	Mercury freezes. Too cold to think, North Dakotans button top button.
-454/-270	Hell freezes over.
-460/-273	All atomic motion ceases, North Dakotans comment on how it's getting a mite nippy.

—Carol Prafcke, North Dakota State

[The first installment of the "My climate's worse than yours" series. Ask Carol for more particulars—I deleted many nuances of the ND climate description. Hey, Carol, frost on the pumpkin yet?—ed.]



Hello! I'm the education director for the Hearth Products Association. I saw reference to the Society of Building Science Educators in *Home Energy* magazine and would like to learn more about your group.

My ultimate goal is to find speakers on energy-efficient housing, indoor air quality, and sick building syndrome for the education programs we provide our members. If you want to offer

• continued page 4

SBSE News is published quarterly by the Society of Building Science Educators, a not-for-profit corporation. Material for publication should be submitted to Bruce Haglund, Editor, Department of Architecture, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-2451, phone 208-885-6781, fax 208-885-9428, e-mail <bhaglund@uidaho.edu> before the first of March, June, September, or December. Membership and mailing list inquiries should be directed to Leonard Bachman, Secretary/Treasurer, University of Houston, College of Architecture, 4800 Calhoun, Houston, TX 77204, phone 713-743-2372. Join the SBSE list server by sending **subscribe sbse** to <majordomo@uidaho.edu>. Visit our homepage <<http://www.arch.vuw.ac.nz/sbse/>>. ■

ACSA TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE SAGA

[On the way to Vital Signs Training I anticipated talking to Martin Moeller about SBSE's future involvement in the ACSA Technology Conference. As soon as he arrived, Martin, with great glee, told me that the ACSA board had just voted to separate Technology from the Annual Meeting. What great news! Margot (who talked with Martin and current ACSA President John McRae) and I quickly informed Mary Guzowski. A flurry of e-mail ensued. Highlights follow.—ed.]

I talked with Martin Moeller and the new ACSA president at Vital Signs (thanks to Cris) and confirmed SBSE's interest in providing the human resources to organize the soon-to-be-separate Technology Conference. Our foot's in the door. Now we need to make sure it doesn't get jammed! <Margot McDonald>

[Mary contacted the ACSA powers that be—Kelly, John, and Martin.—ed.]

I wanted to follow up on our correspondence concerning SBSE and the ACSA Technology Conference in 1998. If you're still in need of moderators, session chairs, and paper reviewers, I would be happy to solicit SBSE participation. The ACSA paper review process will probably be happening soon so please let me know if I can provide any assistance.

SBSE discussed future involvement in the ACSA Technology Conference at our Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. As John and Martin know from their discussions with Margot McDonald and Bruce Haglund at the Vital Signs Program, there is interest in developing a proposal for one of the future conferences (possibly in 1999 or 2000). Margot will be following up with a letter of interest later this fall. I'm sure there would be a very enthusiastic response from the membership to help coordinate a future conference. <Mary Guzowski>

[Mary also contacted the SBSE board and me, and, finally, the listserver.—ed.]

I wanted to get your thoughts about whether I should follow up on the discussion at the Annual Meeting about SBSE's participation in the ACSA Technology Conference. I heard there was some mention of the topic at the SBSE Retreat, but I'm not sure whether any strong opinions were aired. I was considering contacting Martin and/or John McRae to discuss the possibility of developing a proposal for SBSE to organize one of the forthcoming conferences (maybe 2000). I need to get information about the "official" process *[there isn't one—ed.]*, and I would then follow up with proposal suggestions from SBSE (probably via the listserver). I thought it would be good to get the ball rolling before Margot takes over in November. Any thoughts? <Mary Guzowski>

At the SBSE Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, we discussed an invitation from Kelly Carlson-Reddig (1998 ACSA Technology Conference Chair) to prepare a SBSE Plenary Session for the ACSA Conference. SBSE decided to submit a proposal to coordinate one of the future technology conferences (preliminary planning by several SBSE members is in the works).

I realize that SBSE decided not to pursue this opportunity; however, Kelly asked me to raise the issue again. If you would like to further discuss the topic, please contact me at <guzow001@maroon.tc.umn.edu>. <Mary Guzowski>

[Meanwhile Kelly Carlson-Reddig suggested an SBSE Plenary Session at the ACSA Technology Conference.—ed.]

I propose a forum for SBSE, as a leading group in technology education, to discuss a significant issue related to the conference theme. It could be a panel discussion, or could take some other form. It would not fall under the normal review process. Please let me know if you think this session might be of interest (there are still 6 months for full planning, and 4 before publication of schedules). At publication time, I would simply need to know what topics were to be ad-

• continued page 6



photo: Bill Burke

Brooks Cavin takes a nap as well as the vital signs of the San Francisco Public Library.

VITAL SIGNS UPDATE

1997 TRAINING SESSION

The opening day was devoted to measurement equipment. Cris Benton described each of the tools in the kit, explained possible uses, and offered folks a chance to try the tools. Succeeding days were spent using San Francisco's new Main Library as a test site to discover more about the field study approach to learning. Small teams investigated building performance topics there and related their findings to design decision making. Organizing the groups and conducting a study in a limited amount of time required a lot of effort from the participants, more, in fact, than we had originally intended. Many of the faculty participants devoted so much time and effort to these studies that the training amounted to a mini-charrette. It was especially demanding of the group leaders (Jim Wasley, Mike Utzinger, Marietta Millet, Tang Lee, Walter Grondzik, and Gail Brager) who were the key to the success of the training and made it a positive experience for the participants. We really didn't mean to make you work that hard!! We plan to showcase some examples of the work from the 1998 training session on the Vital Signs internet site soon.

1998 CASE STUDY STUDENT COMPETITION

A total of \$10,500 in prize money, supported by The Educational Foundation of America, will be awarded to winning students and their schools. The deadline for receipt of competition entries will be June 30, 1998. Case studies may be conducted during either the fall or spring terms. A competition poster will be mailed to schools in October. The program will be available at the Vital Signs internet site that same month. To ensure that students are evaluated against their peers, we've created separate undergraduate and graduate divisions for this year's competition. First, second, and third prizes will be awarded within each division. Check the Vital Signs internet site for information as it becomes available or contact Gail Brager (faculty advisor for the competition) at <vitalsigns@ced.berkeley.edu>.

FIELD INVESTIGATION GRANTS

The distribution of \$5,000 grants to individual faculty members for use during the spring 1998 term will support student field investigations of existing buildings. The funds, courtesy of the Nathan Cummings Foundation, can be used for any number of purposes, including travel costs to study a non-local building, equipment purchases for use in a class, or a teaching assistant to help the field investigation effort. Awards will be made via a request for proposal (RFP) process. The RFP will be available at the Vital Signs internet site by September 22. Check the site at that time or contact Bill Burke, <bburke@ced.berkeley.edu> or 415-972-5931, for more information. Proposals will be due November 17, 1997, with notification of awards shortly thereafter.

TOOLKIT LOAN PROGRAM

With support from the National Science Foundation and The Energy Foundation, we've assembled eight well-stocked toolkits containing instruments for use in evaluating building performance. These kits are now in the hands of students from the ten schools of architecture participating in the toolkit program this year. We are already starting to plan next year's toolkit loans. Keep your eyes open for a new RFP, available at the Vital Signs internet site in December, for faculty members interested in borrowing a toolkit for use during the 1998-99 year. Proposals will be due March 15, 1998. The toolkit loan program is ongoing—an RFP for use of the equipment will be issued on an annual basis.

SHARE YOUR FIELD STUDY EXPERIENCES

We're always interested in hearing the experiences of you and your students with architectural field studies. If your students discover interesting stories about a building, let us know. We want to continue to make well-executed case studies available on our internet site. Also, if you or your students develop interesting investigative methods, we would like to showcase them and enable others to try them for themselves. Look up the Vital Signs site at <<http://www.ced.berkeley.edu/cedr/vs/index.html>>. You can send questions and comments to Bill Burke, project coordinator, <bburke@ced.berkeley.edu>. ■

—Bill Burke

SBSE PEOPLE

🏠 **Eric Angevine** was promoted to associate professor and granted tenure by Oklahoma State University.

★ Our favorite overachiever, **Cris Benton**, was not only promoted to professor at the University of California, but also became a household name in two venues. His kite photography was highlighted on CNN on July 4. He also contributed kite's eye perspectives of the UC Campanile for a SIGGRAPH entry featuring a 3-D model of the tower created from still photographs.

🏠 **Walter Grondzik** was promoted to professor at Florida A & M.

🏠 The University of Michigan wisely promoted **Jong-Jin "JJ" Kim** to associate professor with tenure.

🐟 *Le petit bureaucratique* disease has also infected **Lance Lavine** who has been named chair of architecture at the University of Minnesota.

⌘ **Russell Leslie** has been selected as one of the inaugural co-chairs of the Feltman Seminar in Humanities at the Cooper Union. Russ will commute from the Lighting Research Center to New York City to teach a weekly multidisciplinary seminar on the philosophical and social contexts of design and visual perception. ■



photo: Bill Burke

Moji Navvab demonstrates his prowess with a spot pyranometer—“Gimme your surface temperature!”

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR [CONT.]

your services, please contact me at 1601 N Kent ST Suite 1001; Arlington, VA 22209.

—Susan K. Alish, H.earth Products Association
[All you Tang Lee wannabes dash Susan a note, please.—ed.]



Ten days ago I got a small envelope from the Rockefeller Foundation. They turned down 4 of 5 proposals, and ours landed in that 80%. No explanation. Just thanks for your proposal, and sorry. I confess I'm a bit surprised. The referee reports were very positive and the enthusiasm of possible participants was intense.

One possibility would be to look for another foundation to finance such an activity, but just now I have no more time to pursue it. I must prepare for and run my next IEA expert meeting in Denmark, then I am off for a month to Malaysia and Australia. Any thoughts? Frankly, I'm disappointed.

—Robert Hastings, ETH-Hauggerberg
[Bad news, indeed. Since the proposal was favorably reviewed, I'd resubmit for the next funding cycle. Sometimes persistence pays off. Any alternatives?—ed.]

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Architecture at the University of Oregon seeks applicants for a tenure-track faculty appointment at assistant or associate professor rank to teach courses in environmental control systems and architectural design, beginning September 1998.

Applicants must hold appropriate advanced degrees with teaching, research, and practice and/or practice experience. Full position descriptions, applications, and related information are available from Nancy McNaught at 541-346-3656. More information is posted at <<http://laz.uoregon.edu>>.

To apply, by December 1 forward a curriculum vitae, statement of interest, names of three references, and no more than 10 pages of representative research/creative practice to: Faculty Search Committee; Department of Architecture; 1206 University of Oregon; Eugene, OR 97403-1206. Position will remain open until qualified candidates are identified. The University of Oregon is an AA/EEO/ADA institution committed to cultural diversity. ■

RETREAT IN RETROSPECT [CONTINUED]

THE ACADEMY

The following notes are from the Sunday morning session, "reflections under the oaks." These notes, though incomplete, suggest the sense of the meeting and also some great insights. Apologies to all for mis-quotes, incomplete citations, false inferences, and outright misrepresentations.

Don Watson introduced the discussion, asking each participant to offer her or his most critical observation or issue and, in light of that, to suggest a recommendation for a "next step" development of Murray Milne's proposal for the Academy of Architectural Science (AAS).

Lois Phillips (invited guest) offered an overview of 21st century education and business issues resulting from economic trends (worldwide communication, globalization of traditional economies, networking and partnering, speed and flexibility of business arrangements and resulting clusters of opportunity) that may foster academic, community, and business partnerships. Education will increasingly have to respond to the needs of working adults (in-situ educational programs, flexibility of enrollment, access to distance learning based on wide-ranging schedules, real-world cases and applications of studies, and attitudes towards learning in the workplace) by rewarding continuing education and forming new attitudes towards learning from experience (including mistakes).

Selected respondents from the circle of SBSEers were: Margot McDonald (The most critical issue in architectural education and practice is the need to develop research methods, better and more specific tools and techniques.)... Charlie Brown (I'm concerned with the weakness of the design process and failures of design.)... Chris Luebke (I'm interested in the reality of information in the process and context of design. Not so impressed with the information mall or consumerization of information driven by market.)... Alison Kwok (How can we develop knowledge that supports design quality?)... Martin Gold (In the context of global issues, why does degradation of natural environment continue irrespective of our knowledge? Lack of information is not the problem.)... Cris Benton (Design without evaluation is incomplete. We need to frame design as hypothesis to



Sim van der Ryn (center), workshop keynote speaker, participating in the retreat.

photo: Bruce Haglund

convey the notion of research and reflective design.)... Brooke Harrington (We hear too much about the architects need to "get the job" which translates into nothing more than "situational ethics" that vary according to client and project. Not acceptable in light of the need for an environmental ethic.)... Harold Hay (There is too much fragmentation and elitism in what I am hearing. Why is this discussion separate from other efforts, such as ASE?)... Susan Ubbelohde (I'm concerned about universities following the corporate model. I hear too much at this retreat about training, rather than education... only lip service is being given to design.)

General commentary and recommendations for AAS: The profession is clearly becoming more knowledge-based. ... What we need are great courses. ... Supplement distance learning with an annual retreat. ... Education (continuing) is more important than a (doctorate) degree. ... DO IT! ... Coordinate with AIA. ... Teachers also need continuing education.

—Don Watson

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Harold Hay explains the Atascadero House to Murray Milne and Isabel Greene.

photo: Bruce Haglund

RETREAT IN RETROSPECT [CONTINUED]

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INSIGHTS

The thing that impressed me the most about the Santa Barbara retreat was not the incredible setting (ferreted out by Margot), nor the great discussions and presentations (lined up by Murray), but the presence of the community spirit that prevailed. I left inspired.

The format of the retreat was perfect. The sessions on Friday were very informational, but my familiarity with most of the topics that SBSEers "usually" teach is limited. (I am enjoying learning from you.) I can see why some of you "guard" the intimacy of the retreat format.

I encourage the development of the CEU courses. There is a HUGE market for them.

Thanks for being such a good audience! I look forward to being able to show you the latest that computation and the web can bring us next year. ■

—Chris L. uebkeman

THE CONTEST

Who is the architect, and what is the first built work of the modern era (post-1910) that gives clear evidence of passive solar design, applied with a deliberate understanding and professed consideration of solar geometry?

Approximately one dozen nominations were received via a worldwide e-mail network, including SBSE and PLEA membership. Don Watson (contest administrator) assembled the submitted documentation and forwarded it to the jury: Ralph Knowles, Jeff Cook, and John Reynolds. About 10 architects were final candidates, including Alvar Aalto, William Atkinson, Marcel Breuer, Le Corbusier, Tony Garnier, Walter Gropius, Hans Haring, George and William Keck, Stam Papadaki, and Frank Lloyd Wright.

The jury was unable to agree on the winner, with intense disagreement on whether FLW really understood the sun or not, which nearly brought the jury to fisticuffs, averted only by a call for a split decision between Atkinson and FLW.

William Atkinson (nominated by Jeff Stein) was an early American researcher, author, and architect (*The Orientation of Buildings*, John Wiley & Sons, 1912). He advocated solar position and orientation in *Suggestions for Hospital Architecture*, Wiley, 1894. His testimony about this work led to legislation regarding the height of buildings for sunlight access in 1904 Boston. He lectured on this topic at MIT, and his work was recognized through the 1920s. He built an experimental "sun house," actually a test lab, in 1911 (see Butti and Perlin, *The Golden Thread*, for a picture). This documentation was convincing to half the jury. A dissenting juror made the point that Atkinson did not get his designs built, and that the "Sun House" was just a little box in the sun.

FLW published *Organic Architecture* in 1910. He designed Taliesin East the following year and wrote about its engagement with nature in celebratory and poetic terms. Several jurors considered the Robie House, 1908, an unambiguous exemplar of design with nature. A dissenting juror suggested that its south-facing orientation was an accident of site. [*I agree—a corner lot with the long dimension facing south. Duh!—ed.*] One juror pointed out that HH Richardson's earlier work

in Chicago was evidence that architects at that time understood climate response—Richardson and Wright gave poetic expression to that knowledge.

Since no one had actually nominated FLW, the Contest Award, the first edition copy of *Your Solar House* (1946), will be sent to Jeff Stein for the Wentworth Institute of Technology Architecture Library. ■

—Don Watson



A design for Pennsylvania by Louis I. Kahn as shown in *Your Solar House*.

EVENTS

LANDSCAPE LIGHTING

The Lighting Research Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, will conduct a *Landscape Lighting Institute*, **October 4–8, 1997**. Led by renowned landscape lighting designer, Janet Lennox Moyer, the course will consist of classroom instruction, field evaluations, and actual designs and installations at the home of Rensselaer's President R. Byron Pipes. For further information contact Kevin Heslin at 518–276–8716.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

In Seattle the annual *Sustainable Building Northwest Conference*, "Breaking Through Barriers," will be held **Oct 27–29, 1997**. For information call Kathleen O'Brien, 206–842–8995, or e-mail <obrien@halcyon.com>.

GREEN BUILDING

Austin's seventh annual *Green Building Conference*, "Linking Practice with Place: How To Do Your Best Where You Are," will happen **Oct 30–Nov 2, 1997**, in Austin, Texas. For information call 512–442–0004 or e-mail <nick_denner@greenbuilder.com>.

COLD CLIMATES

Renewable Energy Technologies in Cold Climates '98, sponsored by the Solar Energy Society of Canada, will be held in Montreal, **May 4–6, 1998**. For information e-mail <RETCCC.98@sympatico.ca> or check the website <<http://www.newenergy.org/newenergy/sesci.html>>.

HOT AND HUMID CLIMATES

The eleventh symposium on *Improving Building Systems in Hot and Humid Climates* will be held in Fort Worth, Texas, **June 1–2, 1998**. Abstracts are due October 13. For information contact Dawna Rosenkranz, 409–847–8950 or <drosen@esl.tamu.edu>.

GREEN BUILDING CHALLENGE

Green Building Challenge '98 will be held in Vancouver, BC, **October 26–28, 1998**. Abstracts are due November 3, 1997, and poster proposals are due February 16, 1998. For information contact Nils Larsson <larsson@greenbuilding.ca>. ■

OBITUARY

Ben Evans passed away on June 27 at the age of 70. Ben was known to many of us as a tall, soft-spoken Texan who, in earlier days, struggled to get architectural research recognized as a legitimate area of inquiry. As a student his interest in research was inspired by William Caudill at Texas A&M's Engineering Experiment Station, where he assisted Caudill in his pioneering work in natural ventilation and daylighting. After Caudill formed CRS, Ben stayed at A&M to head its architectural research program, the nation's first to be housed within an architectural school. From Texas he moved to Washington, DC, to become the AIA's first director of research, and then to the National Academy of Sciences as assistant director of the Building Research Advisory Board. Leaving Washington, he returned to teaching, this time at Virginia Tech where he established their Environmental Systems Laboratory and continued his work in daylighting. This work culminated in *Daylight in Architecture* (1981), a book that helped establish a renewed interest in the subject. In addition to being an emeritus professor at Virginia Tech, Ben was a fellow in both the AIA and IES, as well as chairman of the IES Daylighting Committee.

My fondest memory of Ben was at an IES Daylighting Committee meeting, when he commented that I and some of the other young members of the committee were reinventing the wheel. He suggested I read Caudill's 1952 monograph, *An Experiment in Architectural Education Through Research*. Seeing Ben a few months later, I thanked him for introducing me to this important work. He smiled and said, "reinventing the wheel can be a very effective teaching tool in the classroom, but unlike the student, the teacher has to know that the wheel has already been invented."—typical of how Ben would wisely bring his points home. Ben gave me a tremendous respect for and appreciation of a whole generation of educators who, during the '50s and '60s, struggled to get technology and research concerns introduced into architectural curricula. ■

—H arvey B ryan

SOMBREROS?

Dust off your thirsty boots and sombrero [*Sombrero!?!? We don't got to show you no stinkin' sombrero!—ed.*], and start making plans for next summer's SBSE retreat in Taos, New Mexico, June 18–21 (follows the annual ASES meeting in Albuquerque). We'll begin with a tour of northern New Mexico, hitting some of the high points between Albuquerque and Taos along the "high road." The retreat will be held 15 miles northeast of Taos at the Inn at Snakedance, at the base of the Taos Ski Valley at 9,200 feet. Accommodations at this new inn will include double occupancy rooms with breakfast. Breakout sessions will be held in the library, meeting room, or on the deck overlooking the ski slopes. (There's room at the inn, about \$65/double occupancy, for family and friends if you're planning next summer's vacation.) The retreat theme will be "Dialectics and Dialogue: Mastering the Art of Teaching." Share your best tricks of the trade. Arrangements will be made for those who wish to take a post-retreat tour to nearby Chaco Canyon National Historic Park, with visits to Acoma and Laguna Pueblos on our return to Albuquerque. [*Learn about your touring opportunities on the web at <<http://www.colorado.edu/conferences/chaco>>—ed.*] More news to come ... stay tuned! ■

—Alison K wok, R ob P eña



A Chacoan ruin at Chetro Ketl [Not a demonstration of June weather.—ed.]

photo: Anne Marshall

ACSA TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE SAGA [CONTINUED]

dressed, and who would be involved. I hope we can begin to build this relationship early. <Kelly Carlson–Reddig>

[Mary polled SBSEers on the list server, and the response varied from negative to tepid to positive. Working on a more central role for 1999 or 2000 seems to be the preferred direction. Some of those comments follow.—ed.]

In the somewhat distant past, such SBSE sessions were completely ignored by ACSA attendees. Dale Brentrup and I drove down to ACSA at Orlando years ago to an empty room. Major waste of time. If I saw a procedure that would have different results, I would feel better about this opportunity. Maybe the fact that two days are called "Technology" would help draw an audience. <John Reynolds>

We should reconsider and take this opportunity that Kelly is offering. It's "a bird in the hand." It may give us a positive forum for the future technology conference that we would organize and host. Is there a conflict or would we (SBSE) be disqualified from hosting a conference if we took this first opportunity to host a session? If not, let's do it; it's positive. <Marc Giaccardo>

A good opportunity for one or more SBSEers who need exposure for promotion. The presenter could talk about what is going on at SBSE and individual schools. I would be willing to submit a one-page description that someone could work into a presentation about our work. <Charlie Brown>

I wouldn't touch this one. <Susan Ubbelohde>

I urge you to use this opportunity to define the direction of the technology conference. We should take a leadership position. While everyone was trying to figure out where it was going, this topic got up and went. We seek nothing less than what Kishio Kurokawa calls "a timeless, concretized poetic that transcends both linearity and literalism." <Michael Garrison> ■

RESEARCH NOTES

MOSTAR 2004 PROJECT

In July 1997, students from Florence, Istanbul, Mostar, and Sarajevo, in cooperation with Columbia, Temple, and Yale students, gathered for one month to develop strategies for rebuilding the Old Town, 'Stari Grad,' in Mostar, Bosnia/Herzegovina. The keynote speakers were Bonnie Burnham, President of the World Monument Fund; Alija Izetbegovic, President of Bosnia/Herzegovina; Cyrus Vance, former U.S. Secretary of State; and architect Gian Carlo DiCarlo of Italy.

The students served as researchers to document and develop of a number of projects that could be clearly identified for funding and advancement in the coming year. The range of projects included: (1) Creation of a special Neretva River zone within the city to revitalize the river's edge and eliminate sewage disposal into the river itself. Separate projects in this zone were created to reknit the neighborhoods on the east and west of the river banks. (2) Careful documentation of a severely damaged mosque in the Old Town to allow an UNESCO-funded project to proceed. (3) Documentation of a severely damaged and neglected *haman* (public bath) in the Old Town along with the creation of an adaptive reuse initiative for the bath. (4) Documentation of damage and proposal for adaptive reuse of a large Austro-Hungarian girls' school that occupies a prominent site in the Old Town.

Three alternative proposals were developed: (1) Study of the current section of the Old Town not designated part of historic area, but containing significant traditional houses and urban fabric. (2) Careful study of the uses and conditions of the buildings in this area and development of a new evaluation form. (3) Cross-section studies of parts of the city that contain both traditional and contemporary buildings and urban scales to aid in developing appropriate building responses. Three separate housing initiatives were developed to show possible infill approaches.

The workshop was supported by grants from the Bosnia/Herzegovina government; the Municipality of Mostar; the United Nations Development Program; UNESCO; the Aga Khan Trust for Culture; the World Monument Fund; and the International Research Centre of Islamic History, Culture, and Art; as well as through secondary funding obtained by participants.

The students stayed in different residences in the city and were given all their meals at a terrace café next to the famous bridge. In addition to the work, participants visited a nearby Dervish monastery, toured Split and Dubrovnik, and kayaked a 10-kilometer stretch of the upper Neretva River that had level 2 and 3 rapids.

By next spring more information about the proposals will be available on the web.

—B rooke H arrington

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANTS

NSF is offering various generous programs, including post-docs (Ph.D. equivalency okay) and short, collaborative visits. Support is primarily for travel and living expenses, though there are programs with additional moneys available for internal travel and equipment. For details see the NSF web page <<http://www.nsf.gov>> or for Japan-specific programs <<http://www.twics.com/~nsftokyo/home.html>>.

NSF is expanding their applicant base by including more people they refer to as "social scientists." As far as they're concerned, this designation includes architects. They can't seem to understand why more architects don't apply. When I tell them that every page of the application form says "Scientists and Engineers," they don't understand why that would deter architects. *Don't get thrown off; you qualify.*

Then there is the business of calling these things post-docs. I don't have a doctorate, and most architectural academics still don't. But they do accept arguments about equivalency. I apparently found a program that had never had a non-PhD before, and I can attest that these people went to bat on my behalf. I had to make the arguments, but their support convinced the folks in Japan. *Don't worry about whether you have a doctorate.*

RESEARCH NOTES [CONT.]

In my case, I'll be in Tokyo for a year. The Japanese government, however, has a target level for post-docs which is essentially tripling the quota by 2000. The funding organization has repeatedly encouraged me to extend my time in Japan. NSF would love to supply more people to help their partner agency comply.

Technically-oriented proposals that might not be welcomed elsewhere will be accepted. For example, I will look at how architects interact with flexible production systems. Another NSF researcher in Japan was recently looking at solar power. Environmental issues are very appropriate. Schedules are flexible; I set mine for the calendar year. NSF also has a goal of bringing more women to the program and supporting young researchers. You will need to have a contact here, either in academe or manufacturing. However, this connection doesn't require funding on the part of your contact. (In fact, I am beginning to suspect they may receive a stipend, too, but I am unsure.) Many larger corporations already have made commitments to the programs, and may appreciate having appropriate applicants. I did not need NSF to help me find a contact—but if you do, they might. Ask.

I encourage everyone to look into NSF. I have been delighted by their support. ■

—D ana B untrock



Mohamed Boubekri surveys SF Main Library occupants during Vital Signs '97.

• continued next column

SBSE WWW NEWS

The SBSE WWW task group believes an online directory of SBSE members would be beneficial to us and the public. Due to concerns about privacy, your name will be included only with your explicit permission. If you would like to have your name included, please send an affirming e-mail message to <gzik@polaris.net>, providing your name (as you'd like to be listed), affiliation, e-mail address, and your home page URL (or a link to information about you on a school or department web page). *[I did it. It was fun and easy!—ed.]* To remain unlisted—simply do nothing. ||

—Walter G rondzik

NEW ACADEMY WEB PAGE

The Academy of Architectural Sciences' web page has been approved and will soon be up <<http://www.archsci.org>>. There is nothing there yet *[except a dreaded "under construction" icon?—ed.]*, but information from the Academy's proposals will be loaded so prospective students and faculty will know our plans. ||

—M urray M ilne

SBSE NEWS

C/O BRUCE HAGLUND
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
MOSCOW, ID 83844-2451



kite photo: Cris Benton

SBSEers say cheese on the beach at Santa Barbara. [Cris Benton has posted more kite photography images of the beach gathering at <<http://www.ced.berkeley.edu/~cris/kap/gallery/gal89.html>>.—ed.]



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WINTER ISSUE SUBMITTAL DEADLINE—DECEMBER 1
