

Architecture Specialty Group (ASG)

Student Outreach

In 2012, the ASG board is focusing on expanding our student membership and increasing our support of the Emerging Conservation Professionals Network (ECPN). This initiative began with the Student Research Sessions organized for the 2010 and 2011 annual meetings by our current chair emeritus **Joshua Freedland**. Due to scheduling conflicts, a Student Session will not be held at this year's annual meeting. Alternatively, we have decided to take ASG to the students. This spring, we will host events at graduate schools with recognized programs in architectural conservation, as a means of introducing students to AIC as their primary professional organization. We will provide a full account of these activities at the annual Business Meeting.

AIC 2012 Annual Meeting

ASG is hosting three sessions at the annual meeting covering a wide variety of topics including murals, finishes, and indigenous architecture. There is something for everyone this year. We are also pleased to have as presenters several Latin American scholars, many of whom received Getty Foundation supported scholarships to assist with their attendance.

ASG is Co-sponsoring with AIC an Angels Project during this year's conference. It will take place on Tuesday, May 8. Please look for the official announcement soon for details on how you can volunteer and get your hands dirty!

The ASG 2012 Annual Business Meeting will be held on Thursday morning, May 10, prior to the morning session. As reported in our September column, members will vote to amend the ASG Rules of Order to include a provision for electronic voting. The proposed addition is:

Section IX, A. These Rules of Order may be amended, added to or repealed by an electronic vote of a majority of the members provided that notice of such changes has been provided in writing, including electronic communication, to said membership at least 30 (thirty) days in advance of the vote.

Upcoming Deadlines

Several deadlines are fast approaching that are key to our representation and influence as a Specialty Group within the AIC organization. In keeping with our student outreach focus, we need Professional Associates and Fellows to sign up for the AIC Mentor Program. Applications are accepted at anytime; however, mentors and mentees are matched only four times a year (March, June, September, and December). The June 1 deadline is right around the corner. The questionnaire is simple

and quick to complete via the Career Center page on the [AIC website](#).

You have the training, knowledge, commitment and experience, so what's keeping you from taking the next step to become a Professional Associate or Fellow? Time is on your side. The next deadlines for peer-reviewed status is May 1 and July 10. Information and applications are available on the Peer-Reviewed Status page of [AIC's website](#).

We all want to read more about architectural conservation in the *JAIC*. Year after year, members present excellent research at the annual meeting. Why not go that extra step and publish? *JAIC* has two upcoming submission deadlines: May 1 and August 1. Submission to the *Journal's* online peer review management system is at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jaic>. For details refer to the *JAIC* page of [AIC's website](#).

Stout Funding

This year ASG gave \$2,500 to the George Stout Fund and \$1,000 to the AIC Professional Development Fund. Executive Director **Eryl Wentworth** of AIC and FAIC acknowledged these gifts by sharing these kind words: "With these gifts, the Architecture Group is supporting continuing education for conservators throughout their careers—from student to professional." Fourteen Students benefitted from George Stout scholarships, and Professional Development workshops reached an estimated 400 individuals. With this, know that your ASG annual dues are going to good use.

—Roy Ingrassia, Secretary/Treasurer
[ringraffia \[at\] milnercarrconservatio __ com](mailto:ringraffia[at]milnercarrconservatio__com)

Book and Paper Group (BPG)

Publications Committee

The Book and Paper Group Annual 2011, volume 30 has been mailed to members. Great thanks to the outgoing Managing Editor **Jim Hinz** and incoming Managing Editor **Renee Wolcott** for a job very well done. The volume came out in record time and is excellent! **Amy Baker** has been working hard to get the annuals online. She just prepared vol. 21 (2002) and **Walter Henry** will post this very soon. Amy is now working on vol. 22 (2003).

More news about the Publications Committee: **Karen Zukor** has stepped down as head and **Olivia Primanis** has taken over. The other members of the committee are:

- **Walter Henry**, Manager, Conservation Online (CoOL)
- **Penley Knipe**, BPG Chair
- **Renee Wolcott**, Managing Editor
- **Catherine I. Maynor**, Paper Conservation Catalog Editor, paper edition
- TBD, Wiki Paper Conservation Catalog
- **Lynn Kidder** and **Christine McCarthy**, Co-coordinators, Wiki Book Conservation Catalogue
- **Evan Knight**, Wiki Technical Facilitator
- **Laura Bedford**, Secretary, WIKI Technical Facilitator, volunteer organizer
- **Amy Baker**, BPG Annual online
- **Bruce Bumbarger**, liaison to AIC publications committee, BPG Website Manager
- **Ruth Seyler**, AIC Membership & Meetings Director
- **Shannon Zachary**, ex officio
- **Karen Zukor**, ex officio, Publications Committee Chair
- **Jim Hinz**, ex officio, Managing Editor
- **Sue Murphy**, ex officio, BPG Chair

Please be in touch with Olivia or Laura if you want to help the Publications Committee.

Nominating Committee for 2012

The Nominating Committee members, **Sue Murphy**, Chair; **Jane Klinger**; and **Nora Lockshin** have done an excellent job finding a great slate of candidates, three each for the two open posts. Open positions include: Chair and Assistant Program Chair, and the slate will soon be made public. Thanks very much to Sue, Jane, and Nora for their work on this important matter. Voting will probably take place late in March through much of April via Survey Monkey. Please be sure to vote. If you want to serve on the nominating committee for next year, please email me or come to the BPG business meeting in Albuquerque.

If there are questions or if I can be of service or assistance, please let me know.

—Penley Knipe, BPG Chair
[penley_knipe \[at\] harvard .edu](mailto:penley_knipe[at]harvard.edu)

Conservators in Private Practice (CIPP)

AIC 2012 Annual Meeting CIPP Workshop

Conservators in private practice sometimes mistakenly assume that public outreach (educating the public) does not or should not cross over into self-promotion. These issues and more will be addressed in this year's hands-on seminar on practical outreach methods that every conservator can use successfully. The CIPP meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 1–5 PM and will have two presenters.

Ann Shaftel will be the presenter for the first part of the afternoon. Her subject will be "Conservation Outreach on Television, Radio, and Print." She has extensive experience

with live-to-air television. For six years she was a radio expert on a live-to-air phone-in show. She also wrote a newspaper column on conservation for 4 years.

Ann will offer advice on what to do in front of microphone and camera, illustrated with clips of her own successful and unsuccessful media appearances. Her presentation will be sensitive to the challenges of the art conservator who requires additional training to navigate today's media rich world. For example, there are radical differences between working contentedly as a bench conservator and communicating flawlessly under the pressure of "lights, camera, and action" in a live-to-air appearance. Yet another skill set is required to be a successful newspaper columnist. Ann's part of the program will be about 1.25 hours.

Immediately following, **Scott M. Haskins**, painting conservator, will conduct a hands-on 2.75-hour workshop on creating an internet presence, presented in a simple, easy, fast, and fun way. The methods and techniques to be taught will be entry-level, with strategies and methods customized to meet your personality and type of business. In this workshop, participants will learn how to make a simple video (even without a video camera), post the video on the internet, create a blog and post the video, learn how to drive traffic to the blog, and learn how to do the above with minimal time commitment or automation—all for free!

Scott's internet capabilities can be previewed by searching for "Scott M. Haskins" and "Fine Art Conservation Laboratories" (use the quotes) and then going to the YouTube channel "bestartdoc." Pack a lunch, you'll be there awhile.

Workshop participants are expected to bring their laptop and be ready to work online. Participants without a laptop can look over someone's shoulder, but be forewarned that the learning experience will be compromised.

The CIPP workshop at the annual meeting costs \$50 for CIPP members and \$75 for non-members. Early sign up is recommended. Scott will be contacting all pre-registered participants to get an idea of participant's needs, give "homework," and distribute valuable info/materials in the months preceding the CIPP meeting.

Please note: This is an easy to implement, entry-level hands-on instructional workshop. No advanced-level internet/public relations/marketing techniques will be discussed or taught. Scott is not an internet guru, marketing professional, or super-knowledgeable uber-geek. Be forewarned that he may not be able to answer all of your questions!

For more information contact Scott M. Haskins.

—Scott Haskins,
[faclartdoc \[at\] gmail .com](mailto:faclartdoc[at]gmail.com)

Electronic Media Group (EMG)

TechFocus II: Caring for Film and Slide Art

The Electronic Media Group of the AIC, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, and FAIC are pleased to announce an important new two-day workshop: “TechFocus II: Caring for Film and Slide Art” that will be held in Washington, D.C., April 27–28, 2012. Registration is now open.

Projected motion picture film and slides are in a state of crisis. Far more quickly than anyone could have anticipated, these technologies will soon reach obsolescence. Options for duplication and preservation are narrowing rapidly. Our collective familiarity and technical understanding of these materials is fading. Yet artists continue to create vital works using film and slides, and earlier works by important artists are being shown in museums with increasing frequency.

TechFocus II is designed to educate conservators, curators, and other art professionals about the technology of film and slide-based artworks, and to recommend best practices for acquisition, preservation, and display. As part of this instruction, the workshop includes a unique “School of Seeing”—actual films and slides are projected as examples of different production processes, so that participants can gain an accurate understanding of the principles being discussed.

Moreover, this workshop will provide a forum for international professionals to gather and debate strategies for collective action in the face of disappearing film stocks, obsolete equipment, and declining expertise.

The TechFocus workshop series is being organized by EMG to provide detailed technical education in the preservation of media art. Launched on the 10th anniversary of the groundbreaking TechArcheology symposium that was held at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in 2000, TechFocus offers in-depth instruction in a broad range of media. Each workshop, hosted by a different institution, is dedicated to one specific media-art technology. A systematic lecture program, delivered by international experts, introduces workshop participants to the technology behind these artworks and offers real-world guidelines for their preservation.

The workshop is being made possible by the generous support of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, FAIC, and the Smithsonian Institution Archives. TechFocus II Planning Committee includes: **Jeff Martin, Christine Frohnert, Joanna Phillips, Eric Pourchot, Susan Lake, Sarah Stauderman, and Gwynne Ryan.**

Full program, fee details, and registration are available on the AIC website at www.conservation-us.org/courses.

—Christine Frohnert, EMG Chair
[c.frohnert \[at\] verizon .net](mailto:c.frohnert[at]verizon.net)

Objects Specialty Group (OSG)

The year seems to have begun relatively quietly despite the activities of hard-working OSG members behind the scenes. There were several activities of note over the past couple of months.

January Edit-a-Thon Month for the OSG Wiki

The following contribution came from **Lee Ann Barnes**

Gordon, head of the OSG Wiki Group:

“The Objects group reached all of the goals that were set for the Edit-a-Thon, thanks to the generous volunteer efforts of our members. As a result of the event, we created new and improved guides to make it easier to contribute, several pre-existing entries were updated, and many new articles are underway. Hopefully, this is just the beginning of a revived interest in the wiki.”

For a more detailed discussion of what OSG members accomplished with the Wiki during the January Edit-a-Thon, please see **Rachael Perkins Arenstein’s** update in this month’s *AIC News* or visit the [wiki](#) and see for yourself!

2010 and 2011 Post Prints

Christine del Re, OSG Post Prints Editor; **Carolyn Riccardelli**, OSG Program Chair 2010; and **Sanchita Balachandran**, OSG Program Chair 2011, are working on editing *Postprints* from the past two years and returning them to their authors for final revisions. We are hopeful that we may be able to get these publications out to OSG members very quickly—ideally before the next annual meeting—although whether this is feasible remains to be seen. In the meantime, we thank all of our contributors for their hard work and patience with the editing process.

—Sanchita Balachandran, OSG Chair
[Sanchita \[at\] gmail .com](mailto:Sanchita[at]gmail.com)

Photographic Materials Group (PMG)

The AIC Wiki Edit-A-Thon

Held during the month of January 2012, this event was very successful, thanks to the participation of a number of members and the encouragement, training, and guidance provided by **Rachel Arenstein**, e-Editor for AIC and **Stephanie Watkins**, Chair of the Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog Committee and PMG Wiki Chair. Everyone’s contributions are welcome, and as Stephanie Watkins noted in an email to the group, “many hands make light work.” Although a couple of months have passed, work continues on the AIC wiki and the Photographic Materials Conservation Catalog; your input is always needed and appreciated. If you haven’t participated yet, would like to learn more about the wiki, or learn how to contribute, contact Stephanie Watkins at swatkinswork@gmail.com or Rachel Arenstein at rachael@AMArtConservation.com.

The March 2012 AIC News Lead Article

“Getting Greener and Creating the Optimal: The State of Sustainability Research and the Preservation Environment” was written and submitted by Jeremy Linden, Preservation Environment Specialist at Image Permanence Institute (IPI), on behalf of PMG. Many thanks to Jeremy for his work and writing such a timely article, and to both Jeremy and IPI for their contributions to the field of preservation!

Topics in Photographic Preservation

Volume 14 of *Topics in Photographic Preservation* is almost ready to go to the printer—and may be there even as you read this.

Collaborative Workshops in Photograph Conservation

The next Collaborative Workshop in Photograph Conservation, “Scientific Analysis of Photographs,” will be held June 12–15, 2012 at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, Indiana. For a link to the course description and to register go to www.conservation-us.org/courses.

October 29–November 2, 2012 in Boston, Massachusetts there will be a Collaborative Workshop in Photograph Conservation on “Identification and Conservation of Digital Prints,” organized by **Martin Jürgens**. This workshop is funded in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. For a link to the course description and to register go to www.conservation-us.org/courses.

Be sure to check the AIC Education page at www.conservation-us.org/education for information and updates on these and other courses.

Another workshop coming up in the next few months is “Aesthetics, Craft, and Care of the Fine Art Digital Print” that will be held in Rochester, New York, July 30–August 3, 2012. Literature for this workshop states, “In a small group setting, this lecture and hands-on style workshop will teach participants the unique aesthetics of the fine art digital print and help them understand their distinguishing characteristics.” More information can be found at www.imagepermanenceinstitute.org/imaging/fine-art-digital-print-workshop.

2012 AIC Annual Meeting:

We hope you have registered for and plan to attend AIC’s 40th Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 8–11, 2012. Meeting registration and information on the sessions and tours is available on the AIC website at www.conservation-us.org/meetings. The PMG sessions will be held on Thursday and Friday mornings, and PMG and BPG will be co-hosting a joint reception on Thursday evening at Los Poblanos. We are looking forward to this meeting and hope to see you there! If you have any questions concerning the PMG program, please contact **Monique Fischer**, PMG Program Chair, at mfischer@nedcc.org.

2013 PMG Winter Meeting:

The next biannual PMG Winter Meeting will be a joint ICOM-CC Photographic Materials Working Group (PMWG) and AIC-PMG Photographs Conservation Meeting, held in Wellington, New Zealand, February 11–15, 2013. To download the Preliminary Announcement go to the PMG page at

www.conservation-us.org/photographicmaterials and click on the [highlighted link](#) for the PDF of the brochure. Further information will be posted, as it becomes available, on the PMG web page. It will also be sent out on the AIC-PMG listserv: [aic-photographic\[at\]cool.conservation-us.org](mailto:aic-photographic[at]cool.conservation-us.org). The Call for Papers will be announced shortly; perhaps by the time you read this.

As always, if there are questions or if I can be of assistance, please contact me.

—Barbara Brown, PMG Chair
[bnbrown\[at\]mail.utexas.edu](mailto:bnbrown[at]mail.utexas.edu)

Paintings Specialty Group (PSG)

PSG Elections

This spring, PSG will be holding elections for the positions of Chair, Assistant Program Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and Nominating Committee Member. **Nick Dorman**, **Mary McGinn**, and **Joanna Dunn** have worked hard to gather a slate of strong candidates. Thank you to all who have agreed to run. The voting period will extend from early March 2012 until early April 2012, concurrent with the AIC Board Elections. You should receive an electronic ballot via email. Please take the time to vote. If you do not receive the ballot, please contact Membership Coordinator **Ryan Winfield** in the AIC office at [rwinfield\[at\]conservation-us.org](mailto:rwinfield[at]conservation-us.org).

Postprints

Volume 23, the *2010 Postprints*, is scheduled to go into the mail in March. Volume 24, the *2011 Postprints* is currently in layout. Many thanks to **Barbara Buckley** and **Meg Newburger** for their work on these volumes!

Annual Meeting

Program Chair, **Katrina Bartlett** and Assistant Program Chair **Matt Cushman** have put together a wonderful program of 16 talks. New this year, the Tips Session will take place as part of the normal PSG Sessions. If you have a tip you would like to share, please contact **Matt Cushman** at [matthewcushman\[at\]worces-terart.org](mailto:matthewcushman[at]worces-terart.org).

Breakfast with Business

Please plan to attend the PSG Breakfast with Business meeting that will be held on Thursday, May 10, from 7:30–8:20am. The business meeting has been generously sponsored this year by **Gamblin Conservation Colors**. If you have a concern or an idea that you would like us to address during the meeting, please contact me at [lrivers\[at\]getty.edu](mailto:lrivers[at]getty.edu).

PSG Reception

This year the PSG Reception will be held at the Albuquerque Aquarium on Thursday, May 10, from 6:00–8:30 in the evening. **Kremer Pigmente** has generously stepped forward to sponsor the reception. Please join us for the wonderful opportunity to spend an evening with your colleagues. Tickets are \$32 and each one includes dinner and dessert. Transportation to and from the Aquarium will be provided.

Sponsor a Student

In order to make attendance at the reception possible for the students among us, the PSG Board has redoubled our efforts for the Sponsor-a-Student Campaign. We would like to ensure that as many students as possible receive a sponsored ticket to the PSG reception. Many of us remember our experience as students, sharing a crowded room at an Annual Meeting while trying to finish the semester. These students, who so resemble what we used to be like, deserve an evening of entertainment!

Please e-mail ([kbartlett \[at\] menil __ org](mailto:kbartlett@menil.org) or [matthewcushman \[at\] worchesterart __ org](mailto:matthewcushman[at]worchesterart__org)) with your intention to sponsor a student and the amount you wish to pledge (for bookkeeping only), so that your name can be added to our list of sponsors! Or, if you wish to remain anonymous, please let us know.

Checks should be made payable to "The American Institute for Conservation." Please include "501-950-01, PSG student/reception sponsorship" in the memo. Mail checks to:

Attn: Ruth Seyler
American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC)
1156 15th Street, NW - Suite 320
Washington, DC 20005-1714

I look forward to seeing you in Albuquerque!

—*Laura Rivers, PSG Chair*
[livers \[at\] getty __ edu](mailto:livers[at]getty__edu)

Research and Technology Group (RATS)

AIC 2012 Annual Meeting

As this newsletter goes to press the Ides of March will soon be upon us, but rather than filling RATS members with a sense of foreboding, we can rejoice because the annual meeting in scenic Albuquerque draws ever nearer. The RATS Vice-Chair **Jason Church**, in collaboration with **Mina Thompson** (OSG Program Chair) and **Jayme Jamison** (BPG Program Chair) have created a wonderful series of sessions that we are very excited about and we hope you will be too.

RATS programming will kick off in the afternoon on Wednesday, May 9, with a series of talks co-hosted by the OSG that highlight collaborations between conservators and scientists. This diverse session will cover topics ranging from dye jobs for taxidermy specimens to possible sources of sulfur contamination, and will also showcase outreach programs such as the Quero project and Dr. **Patricia Hill's** ongoing work to bring conservators and scientists together with www.cheminart.org. Thursday morning, May 10, is pure RATS and will include analytical studies, technical studies, and some aspects of preventive conservation. We are thrilled that **Azadeh Ghobadi**, an Iranian colleague, will be joining us to present her work on the Choogan reliefs, her attendance is made possible with travel funds from the Kress Foundation. Friday, May 11, is reserved for a shared session with BPG that will focus on mass deacidification. After more than 50 years of research, this topic still remains

controversial and we hope that the moderated discussion session led by **Jo-Anne Martinez-Kilgore** will be a productive venue to showcase current research and air opinions amongst our members.

And last, but not least, we'll have our annual Business Meeting and Luncheon on Friday. Besides being an excellent opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones, we'll dine on fajitas while we cover general business, introduce our newly elected Vice-Chair, and receive a preliminary report on the results from our recent survey on collaborative research needs (see below). With dessert on our tables, we'll be treated to our keynote address, given by **Dr. Zeev Rosenszweig**, Program Director of the Chemistry and Materials Research in Cultural Heritage Science (CHS) program at the National Science Foundation (NSF). For those who are interested, the entire program can be found online at www.conservation-us.org/specialty-sessions-research-and-technical-studies.

If you haven't already done so, register for AIC's 2012 Annual Meeting and book your tickets for Friday's lunch now, so that we can enjoy the pleasure of your company and you can enjoy Albuquerque!

AIC Survey on Scientific Research Needs

AIC will be issuing a membership-wide survey on behalf of RATS to inquire about the research needs of members and to gauge member interest in forming collaborations with academic scientists who are involved in the field of heritage conservation. Results of the survey will help RATS and AIC determine how we may help members locate the resources they need to conduct the various kinds of scientific research required to properly understand and care for the heritage objects in their care.

The AIC Survey on Scientific Research Needs will be available online through Survey Monkey. The survey will open April 2, 2012 and close on April 16, 2012. Please watch your inbox for an email announcement from **Ruth Seyler** containing a link to the survey. Your participation is vital!

—*Cory Rogge, RATS Communications Officer*
[roggece \[at\] buffalostate __ edu](mailto:roggece[at]buffalostate__edu)

Textile Specialty Group (TSG)

Postprints

We are all too aware that the TSG often operates in the red each year, relying on reserve funds to cover any of the group's deficits. Some cost cutting measures, such as reducing the annual donation for AIC scholarships, have only moderately helped to conserve funds. Therefore, the TSG Board has, over the last few years, taken a careful look at our expenditures to determine any other areas for cost savings.

Besides the Annual Meeting, our biggest expense each year is publishing the *Postprints*. While using the current CD format is cheaper than the original book format, it still costs \$4,000 a year to produce and mail the discs. Therefore, the TSG officers have been exploring ways to reduce this annual expense. We are

proposing to make the *Postprints* available to the TSG membership each year as a downloadable PDF through the AIC site. Because the newly upgraded site can make SG pages member-only accessible, we can post the PDF directly to our site, allowing only active TSG members to retrieve it.

While logistics are still being discussed, I wanted you to be aware that this is being pursued by the TSG Board and the *Postprint* Committee. Please be assured that as an active TSG member, you will still receive the *Postprints* free-of-charge as a benefit of your TSG membership. The means of delivery is the only thing that will change. I hope you will agree that the cost savings will allow us to pursue other activities and build our reserve rather than deplete it.

Call for Nominations, TSG Officers

Many thanks to our Nominating Committee who are putting together nominations for this year's election for Vice Chair and Treasurer. Please consider running or nominating a colleague. Contact the Committee members **Christine Giuntini**, **Esther Methe** and **Maria Fusco** to do so.

AIC 2012 Annual Meeting

We hope by now many of you have taken advantage of the early-bird rates and have registered for the annual meeting. We also encourage everyone to book their rooms at the conference hotel because AIC relies on its members to help fulfill their contractual obligation with the hotel. Unreserved rooms can incur financial penalties as high as \$20,000 to \$80,000—a significant cost that can be easily avoided.

Lastly, since this year's meeting focuses on advocacy and outreach—consider inviting a non-conservator colleague to the conference! What a great way to further their understanding of our field and its importance.

—Susan Mathisen, TSG Chair
[samathisen \[at\] hotmail \[.\] com](mailto:samathisen[at]hotmail[.]com)

Wooden Artifacts Group (WAG)

Proposal for Change in the WAG Officer Structure

I first mentioned this topic in the January WAG column in AIC News, but more detailed information is presented here. Please take the time to read this carefully because we will be voting on these recommendations at the WAG Business Meeting during the AIC's Annual Meeting in Albuquerque.

In essence, with relatively few exceptions, our current system recruits established and mid-career conservators to serve as officers, leaving few opportunities for those in the early stages of their careers to become actively involved. In addition, there is only one ad hoc committee, the Special Project Funds Committee, which has engaged senior conservators with the limited directive to advise and approve funds spent on special projects, such as seed money for the Furniture in Italy study trip.

In review, I feel that WAG should find a way to include both emerging professionals and senior conservators in more active roles that would better represent the breadth of our membership.

Toward that end, I am recommending the following changes to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

1. Create the position of Assistant Program Chair to be appointed by the elected Program Chair.

The addition of an Assistant Program Chair officer would provide an opportunity to engage an emerging professional and would also spread the workload of the Program Chair in preparing a program for the annual meeting. Making the position “by appointment” might also create opportunity for a less experienced member while preparing that member as a possible candidate for Program Chair the following year.

2. Create an Advisory Committee consisting of three members, each with a three-year term.

The advisory committee would consist of two former WAG officers and one emerging professional. A new member would be appointed/elected each year (beginning with a one, two, and three year appointment in the first year).

The proposed Advisory Committee would establish a continuum of institutional memory, act as advisors and consultants to the Chair, Program Chair and special project committees, review and approve requests for special project funding, and oversee the long-term interests of the WAG. In addition, they would be tasked with membership development to encourage and assist members in applying for PA or Fellow status and they would work with the chair in the selection and nomination of future officers.

3. Create the position of Wiki Editor to be appointed by the Chair with no term limit.

The Wiki Editor would encourage and develop member content for our new, and important, WAG wiki.

The existing positions of Treasurer/ Secretary, Postprints Editor and List-serve Moderator will remain unchanged.

It is also worth mentioning that among the AIC specialty groups, we are relatively understaffed, with three elected positions and two appointed positions. For a sense of perspective, our situation can be compared with 19 positions in TSG, 14 in OSG, and seven in PMG.

This column will be distributed by our list serve twice, in advance of the meeting to ensure that our membership has had ample time to consider and comment on the proposed changes.

I encourage you all to contact me with any questions or comments on these proposals.

Furniture in Italy Study Trip Committee Update

There is too little space remaining in this column to cover recent activity on the Furniture in Italy study trip. A full report will follow in the May issue of the AIC News.

—Alexander M. Carlisle, WAG Chair
[maclisle \[at\] gmail \[.\] com](mailto:maclisle[at]gmail[.]com)