

Society of Architectural Historians Australia and New Zealand

President's Report,

2014/2015

SAHANZ partnership agreements with the European Architectural History Network (EAHN) and the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH)

At the EAHN business meeting in April our proposal for a partnership arrangement was greeted with enthusiasm, and agreement was reached on the following points: to allow SAHANZ to propose a session/round table to future EAHN conferences, to enhance visibility of SAHANZ on the EAHN webpage and to have the opportunity to have a brochure or flyer available at the SAHANZ/EAHN annual conferences. An even greater opportunity was offered with the suggestion that SAHANZ bids to organise a joint Themed Conference in Australia/New Zealand in 2019. This would form part of EAHN's mini-conference program held biennially around the world and could be run in conjunction with our SAHANZ conference. This would be an excellent outcome I think and something for the new Society Committee to follow up on.

Subsequently I received an invitation from the conference chair Kathleen James-Chakraborty to organise a meeting/session at the EAHN International Meeting in Dublin in June 2016. The result is a session proposal on 'Architecture of the antipodes' that I will co-convene with Dr Robin Skinner that is currently in circulation. This is a great opportunity to disseminate the research of the Society in the broader international context and I encourage members to submit abstracts.

At the same time we have had themed sessions accepted at the SAH conferences of 2015 and 2016, Julia Gatley and Andrew Leach for the Chicago conference, and Janina Gosseye and Naomi Stead for Pasadena, which arose from our call for a SAHANZ session that we put out at the end of last year.

Additionally, I can advise that I have been approached by a representative of the Society of Architectural Historians Great Britain about creating links between our two Societies. This is another excellent opportunity and is acknowledgement of SAHANZ's positive presence within a growing international network of architectural history research.

SAHANZ PhD Symposium on Architectural History

As discussed last year it was resolved that SAHANZ would hold a PhD Symposium in 2015 to:

- better engage with the next generation of architectural history scholars in our region;
- develop a network between RHD students through SAHANZ; and,
- encourage new membership and support the Society's future.

SAHANZ invites proposals from current research higher degree students for contributions to its inaugural PhD Symposium on Architectural History, which will take place on Friday 27 December 2015, at The University of Queensland, Brisbane. Proposals for papers in any area of architectural history are welcome, including culture and theory. The symposium will offer students expert commentary on research as well as roundtable discussions on academic networking and publishing.

The deadline for receipt of abstracts is 25 September 2015, and it is hoped that we will be able to advise successful candidates within three weeks from that date. A book of abstracts will be printed for the occasion. I encourage you to encourage your PhD students to be involved.

We have drafted a budget with an overall cost to the Society of \$5,000.

Announcement of David Saunder's Grant Award

The Society received nine applications for the Award, which was a great outcome. Thanks to members for encouraging applications. The submissions were of high quality and this year the award goes to Kirsty Volz (Griffith University) for her project entitled, "*Digital Archive of Nellie McCredie's architectural work*". We look forward to seeing the results of Kirsty's research in due course.

Life Membership

At the SAHANZ Conference in July, 2015, I was pleased to announce a new life member of the Society. Jennifer Taylor is an architect and scholar known primarily for her publications on contemporary Australian, Japanese and South Pacific architecture. She was a member of the Editorial Board of *Fabrications*, 1992-2004. One of the region's foremost architectural scholars Jennifer received several honours including the inaugural RAI A Marion Mahony Griffin Award for contributions to the advancement of architecture and, in 2000, the inaugural RAI A National Education Prize.

Unfortunately, due to a prior commitment overseas Jennifer could not be with us for the announcement at the conference but, in response, she wrote to the Society as follows:

"I would like to express my deep appreciation of this offer of a Life Membership by the Society of Architectural Historians of Australia and New Zealand. I am much honoured by this tribute and am delighted to accept."

It was with sadness that we learnt of Jennifer's passing in December 2015 and, on behalf of the Society, I express our condolences to her family. She will be long remembered for her contribution to the Society.

Website

The Society's website has been kept very well up to date and I would like to once again thank Robin Skinner for his ongoing work.

Antony Moulis

SAHANZ President 2013/15

