

President's  
Message—  
March, 2002

Greetings: As I write this letter, I find myself returning from our nation's capitol having just attended the AIA Grassroots Annual Leadership Conference. Grassroots is the annual kickoff of the year's agenda and once again AIA national did an excellent job organizing this educational and highly interactive conference. Our delegation from AIA Indiana kept busy meeting with our Congressional members; hearing outstanding, nationally renown speakers as Mark Shields and Lewis Timberlake among others; attending helpful leadership/organizational workshops; and getting an earful of optimism from the national staff at AIA. It does appear that the folks at headquarters have gotten their act together during the past 12 months regarding the financial health of AIA. At least the signs are pointing in the positive direction (2001 net assets and net income were in the black). AEC Direct has been formally dissolved and written off at a loss to AIA of "only" \$2.1 million (much less than the speculated \$8.0 million earlier published in

ARCHITECTURE magazine). Also, I am encouraged by the efforts of the AIA Board, and in particular, the current Finance Committee headed by treasurer Doug Steidl, FAIA (AIA Ohio) for adopting sound and conservative fiscal practices. Nonetheless, members should cautiously accept this positive effort knowing that AIA has still two years left on an ambitious three-year financial plan, and before we will see 'safe' reserve levels return.

The message AIA brought to Congress this year consisted of four issues, of which only one, the TRAC Act, is an actual bill under consideration. AIA continues to oppose this legislation since it primarily seeks to eliminate "outsourcing" design services for federal projects in favor of using in-house (government) agencies for these services. The other three issues: School Modernization, Energy Efficiency in Buildings and Building Security are being supported by AIA; however, specific legislation has not materialized in any form at this time. Thus, it appears that legislatively, the AIA Governmental Affairs Committee has not pushed its agenda very well on Capitol Hill. This is likely another outcome of AIA Board's financial belt tightening.

Turning the attention to AIA Indiana, I want to start by saying thanks to our members for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President in 2002. This year promises to be a banner year for AIA Indiana, and I hope that our membership likewise shares this optimism. Here is where I see AIA Indiana going this coming year:

- 1. Continue the planning efforts on the future of the Architectural Center and Bookstore.** We will have a final 'business plan' to share with members by mid-year with a resolution (if necessary) ready for membership vote at our convention in October.
- 2. Revamp and up-grade AIA Indiana's web site to make it a more visible, viable, useful and even profitable tool for our membership.**
- 3. Continue sowing the seeds for mandatory education legislation.** All signs nationally point in this direction and Indiana will need to begin preparations for the inevitable requirement that we as architects need to stay abreast with the many changing aspects of our profession in order to adequately serve our clients.

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**4. Host and coordinate a successful joint convention with AIA Kentucky in Columbus on October 17-19.**

We have already begun to get things rolling for what promises to be an exciting and entertaining convention aptly titled LEARNING FROM COLUMBUS. Please mark your calendars because AIA Indiana members need to show our colleagues from Kentucky what a truly great livable community with world-class architecture is all about. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

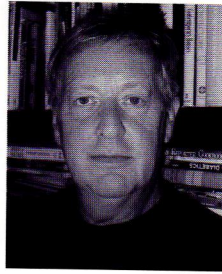
**5. Select a quality individual from our ranks to become the next AIA Ohio Valley Regional director, giving our state a more viable voice at the national and regional level.**

Finally, I want to thank David Rausch, AIA for his outstanding job as President of AIA Indiana in 2001. He laid the groundwork for much of this year's agenda, which I hope to build upon and complete. My job promises to be easier because of his hard work and efforts. As the year progresses, I will strive to keep you, the membership, abreast of on-going events, chapter issues, and much more. I openly invite all members to *be involved* with AIA. Our greatest asset is you.

*Stephan Goffinet, AIA*

**Executive Director's Report  
Ken Englund, Hon. ISA**

For those of you who watched the Olympics, you probably realized as I, that team players are focused, have lots of energy, and strive to win. Your 2002 AIA Indiana Board and staff are such a team. Stephan Goffinet, AIA, President, has been a member since 1983, has



served the Central Southern Chapter as its President, served the Indiana Architectural Foundation as its President, and now serves the state. Each year a new President, represented in rotation from the four state chapters, takes a turn as the team captain. The 2002 team is off to a good start.

Last year we came back from the holidays to find the bookstore in a shamble due to water damage. That was a damp way to begin the year; however, under the leadership of David Raush, AIA, 2001 President, the pace picked up and triumphed with the first Ohio Valley Regional Convention in Cincinnati which was a major success.

Your staff started 2002 with the bookstore inventory. The first day of business, we started a new computer program for the bookstore. The upgraded computer program went from DOS to Windows. That was quite a jump. This new program will provide the opportunity to expand services to the members and public. The bookstore committee is studying the many different prospects of renewing the lease in June 2003. A "White Paper" will be prepared with various options for membership discussion at the Chapter level and eventually for the Annual Meeting, scheduled for October 19, 2002, in Columbus, Indiana, at the Holiday Inn. The member survey done last year indicated that statewide membership continues to endorse a bookstore site in downtown Indianapolis.

The 2002 legislative activity is reported separately this issue by the AIA Indiana lobbyist from Ice Miller. In 2003, the Architects and Landscape Architects Registration Board will have

an agency bill that will endorse mandatory continuing education for licensure. Thirteen other states already have this in place. AIA national and AIA Indiana supports this position. With your "grassroots" support, this concept will continue to build the kind of strength that will protect the health, safety, and welfare of Indiana tax payers.

The Indiana Architects and Landscape Architects Registration Board has voted to increase the cost of procuring your next license to \$100. As most of you who are registered in other states know, Indiana had one of the lowest rates in the country.

There were six representatives at the AIAGrassroots this year in Washington. Indiana delegates visited with both Senator's offices and Representatives from their districts concerning - Building Security Through Design; Brownfield's Redevelopment; School Modernization; and The Truthfulness, Responsibility, and Accountability in Contracting (TRAC)

This year Indiana and Kentucky will hold a joint state convention in Columbus, Indiana. The theme is "Learning from Columbus." The dates are October 17-19. If you question what benefits you get from your membership, attend the chapter events, the state and national convention, and support the legislative activity of the state. Give something to your team and attend and strive for the "Gold."

*Ken Englund*

## Masters Study and Graves Home Tour

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In October, my design studio began a project titled "A Masters Study." The concept of the project was that the students would research, study, and analyze an established architect's work, develop an understanding of the architect's design principles, and then design a guesthouse addition to one of the architect's realized residential projects. It was up to the student to decide whether to reflect or ignore the design concepts of the original residence. The architects that were chosen as "Masters" for the students to study were the members of the New York Five: Peter Eisenman, Michael Graves, Charles Gwathmey, John Hedjuk, and Richard Meier. One of the homes selected for the students to study was the Hanselmann House designed by Michael Graves in 1967 and located in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

At the conclusion of the project, the students were invited to Blackburn Architects in Indianapolis to present their guesthouse designs to not only the designers and staff, but also to Brad Finkel, the current owner of the Hanselmann House. To wrap up the project, Brad was generous enough to allow my studio and I to come to Fort Wayne to tour through his house.

To be honest, I was probably more excited about touring the Hanselmann House than my students. As a student at Ohio State, I remember studying the

work of the New York Five and being fascinated with the Hanselmann House. I always thought that if there were a way for me to visit, sketch and photograph that house, I would definitely do it. This was no small statement because back then, this would have been 1990, some older students went to visit the house and were chased away when the owner released his pet Doberman pinscher on them.

On the day of our visit, I arrived before the students and was stunned by the house's context. Every photograph that I've ever seen of the Hanselmann House makes it appear as if it's a house alone in a forested landscape. This couldn't be more from the truth. The house is located within an average late sixties/early seventies subdivision. The contrast between Graves design and the neighboring homes was a complete surprise. To give you an idea of the contrast, the neighboring ranch house is roughly 10 to 20 yards away from the north face of the structure. The house is situated on the north edge of an approximate one-acre site. The house was originally designed to have a studio/carport attached to the detached front stair, but that was never constructed. The only path that leads a visitor to the house is a gravel drive directly on axis with the building mass.

I parked on the street and approached the detached stair that leads to the main

floor of the house. Brad saw that I had arrived and walked across the bridge to greet me. I walked up the stairs to shake Brad's hand, and after we said our "hellos," started walking back across the bridge towards the house. As we walked along the bridge, all I could keep



*Exterior Hanselmann House*

saying was, "This is awesome!" or "This is amazing!" or again, "This is awesome!" (Actually, I'm embarrassed to admit this, but I said "this is awesome" quite a lot that day.) I had a preconceived idea of what the house was going to "feel" like, but it was truly much better than I had imagined. As we approached the main house structure, the smooth, abstract quality of the exterior surfaces gave way to the slightly-weathered, white-painted, tongue and groove, wood siding. It was very interesting to see that a house so modern in appearance was simply constructed from average building materials.

We reached the black-framed glass entry and stepped inside. Two items immediately caught my attention. One was a large mural located on the living room wall painted by Michael Graves, and the second was the curved, lime-green painted wall of the half-bath. The curved wall was so eye catching simply because of its color.

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*Blackburn presentation*