



**REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMISSION  
2008 MEETING IN MARRAKECH, MOROCCO  
December 10-12, 2008**

The 2008 Meeting of the UIA Professional Practice Commission was held in Marrakech, Morocco beginning with a reception on the evening of December 10 and concluding with a celebration dinner in conjunction with the African Union of Architects on the evening of December 12. Forty-two full time attendees were present with additional visitors from the African Union of Architects sitting in on the second day prior to the start of their meeting. The forty-two persons represented twenty-eight countries and three regional architectural associations.

**The meeting agenda** was constructed to consist of six parts:

1. Introduction items and welcoming remarks by the Chairs, the UIA President and the Host
2. Receipt of Reports from various UIA groups and specific UIA events
3. Review of Drafting Panel Reports from established panels
4. Discussion of new items from the 2008-2011 Work Agenda of the Commission as approved by the UIA Council in Durban, South Africa.
5. A general discussion of the Commission's purpose, vision and goals.
6. Closing items regarding future meetings and statements of appreciation

**The agenda process** proceeded through parts 1, 2 and 3 making decisions as appropriate. It then discussed part 4 without making decisions related to these items. After part 5 was concluded, the meeting returned to part 4 (new items to the work agenda) and made decisions regarding their relevance. Upon completion of those decisions the meeting was concluded with part 6.

**Commission goals, vision and future value to the profession**, as discussed in part 5, may have produced the most significant outcome of the meeting. Throughout the meeting the Commission's future value kept entering the discussions. The Co-Director from the USA summarized the purpose and goals voiced during the discussions as follows:

1. **Aspirational Standards**-The Commission was established to create global practice standards, thus providing a basis for uniform practice and to provide consistent input to global regulatory bodies (governmental or trade associations). The Commission has essentially concluded this work with the exception of periodic updates.



2. **Implementation of Standards**-The weakness of the standards is they are not universally accepted or implemented. A plan of implementation needs to be developed.
3. **Architect Mobility**-Education/Internship/Practice Standards all provide a basis for Mobility. We need to strive for borderless practice.
4. **Equity Issues**-Disparity exists between cultures as a result of economic, educational, and regulatory issues. Commission work should aim to minimize these disparities.

**Reports** were received regarding the following items:

1. Minutes of the Professional Practice Commission Meeting in Seoul, Korea, October 2007, approved as amended.
2. Professional Practice Commission Secretariat
3. UIA Secretariat and COAC's role in establishing and maintaining a database and website on all member sections.
4. Turin, Italy Council Meetings, Congress and Assembly
5. Education Commission and UNESCO-UIA Validation
6. Continuing Professional Development Joint Oversight Committee
7. Architect Mobility by Gaetan Siew

**Recommendations to the UIA Council** were made on the following Items:

1. The inability of the Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya (COAC) to continue funding and updating the Practice Standards database and website of each UIA member section. A motion was made (Peck), and seconded (Wachi).

**MOTION: That the UIA PPC strongly recommends to the UIA Council in respect to the database and web service developed on practice standards by the COAC, that 1. That the work of the COAC be gratefully acknowledged. 2. That the Council accept the offer from COAC to provide UIA with the database, and that the Council take over and operate the database and web service.** The motion was unanimously approved.

2. The UIA Internship Roundtable held on Wednesday 10 December 2008. Fourteen persons were in attendance representing twelve member sections and one regulatory board. The outcome of that roundtable was the recommendation contained as Attachment Number 1 to this report. It was moved (Peck) and seconded (Silcher).

**MOTION: That the Statement on the Portability of Internship/Training/Practical Experience be approved by the**



**Commission as presented, and that it be recommended to the UIA Council for adoption and distribution to all member-sections and bodies that regulate the Internship/Training/Practical Experience process.** The motion was unanimously approved.

3. The Report of the Drafting Panel for Study of a Recommendation on Client-Architect Agreements. The report was presented by Tillman Prinz and upon completion of the presentation and discussion, the following motion was moved (Prinz), and seconded (Farrando).

**MOTION: The PPC considers its work on the Client-Architect Agreement successfully accomplished. The PPC refers the negotiations on publication and licensure with FIDIC to the UIA Bureau and UIA Council. The PPC refers the planning of a launching event of the Agreement to the UIA Communication Committee.** The motion was unanimously approved. A copy of the Client-Architect Agreement is contained as Attachment Number 2.

4. The Report of the Drafting Panel on Revisiting the Existing Recommended Guidelines on Scope of Practice. The report was presented by Shinjiro Wachi and upon completion of the presentation and discussion, the following motion was moved (Wachi) and seconded (Peck).

**MOTION: That the UIA PPC approve and recommend to the UIA Council for adoption the Recommended Guideline on the Scope of Practice, as amended at this meeting.** The motion was unanimously approved. A copy of the amended guideline is contained in this report as Attachment Number 3.

5. The Report of the Drafting Panel on Revisiting the Existing Recommended Guideline on Procurement. The report was presented by Michael Peck with revisions noted during the presentation. Discussion ensued. The following motion was moved (Verma) and seconded (Wright).

**MOTION: That the UIA PPC approve and recommend to the UIA Council for adoption the Recommended Guideline for Procurement, as amended at this meeting.** The motion was unanimously approved. A copy of the amended guideline is attached to this report as Attachment Number 4.

**Actions taken on writing panels** to further direct the work underway:



1. A Guideline for the Development of Architectural Fees. The Panel was expanded in membership and directed to continue work defining the varied ways in which fees can be established.
2. A Guideline on Roles of Professional Bodies and the Relationships between National Professional Bodies and Regulatory Bodies. After considerable discussion a motion was made (Cox) and seconded ((Chong). **MOTION: That the Panel rewrite the Policy on the Role of Professional Institutes of Architects.** The motion was passed unanimously. Direction given related to the Guideline was that it should define the numerous roles that are required of Professional Associations and Regulatory Bodies but not define how those roles are assumed to be divided, if they are divided, since so many variations exist. The Panel was reconstituted with additional members.
3. A Guideline on Codes and Ethics. The Commission was brought up to date on the history of this Panel's work to revisit this Guideline. Following discussion, a motion was made (Wright) and seconded (Mohamed). **MOTION: That the Panel revisit the Guideline on Codes and Ethics taking into account the statutory issues incorporated in the European Union regulations as well as global sustainability and equity issues.** The motion was adopted unanimously.
4. Integrated Project Delivery and Building Information Management. Extensive materials have been compiled on this topic and were overviewed. A motion was made (Wachi) and seconded (Cox). **MOTION: That the document on Integrated Project Delivery and Building Information Management be consolidated and made available on the PPC Website as an "Interim Practice Note".** The motion was approved unanimously. The Commission also discussed the possible future incorporation of this method into the Guideline on Building Project Delivery Systems. The Panel was directed to continue monitoring the topic.

**Actions addressing proposed 2008-2011 PPC Work Agenda Items.** The UIA Council approved exploration of a Work Agenda for the Commission at its meeting in Durban, South Africa. The PPC assigned a discussion leader to facilitate a discussion of each topic at its meeting in Marrakech. After all the presentations were made, the Commission returned to each topic and decided how to proceed with each one, in light of the Commission's four newly defined goals. The following actions were taken:

1. Discussion on Improving Architect-Client Relationships (Oussidhoum)-A motion was made (Oussidhoum) and seconded (Abdelaal Aboseda).



- MOTION: That Improving Architect-Client Relationships not be addressed by the Commission.** The motion passed unanimously.
2. Discussion on Negotiation/Mediation/Arbitration (Prinz)-A motion was made (Prinz) and seconded (Cox). **MOTION: That a summary of existing materials on Negotiation/Mediation/Arbitration be compiled by Tillman Prinz and the summary be included on the PPC Website as an “Interim Practice Note”.** The motion was adopted unanimously.
  3. Discussion on Liability in the Context of Increased Construction Complexity (Dubler/Moreau)-A paper was developed and presented on the topic “The Architect’s Responsibilities in the Context of Increased Building Complexity”. The document approached the subject from the Planetary, Community and Building Owner Levels. A copy of the document is included as Attachment Number 5. It was expressed that this was material to the future of architectural practice, and significant in defining the Commission’s future work. The Commission directed the discussion leaders to continue development of the concepts since they apply directly to Aspirational Standards and Equity Issues.
  4. Discussion on the Role of Architects in Public/Private Partnerships (Peck)-A motion was made (Peck) and seconded (Wright). **MOTION: That a drafting panel be established to develop a document on Public/Private Partnerships that places an emphasis on building quality and the role of the Architect as a key member of the Partnership. The document is to be posted on the PPC Website as an “Interim Practice Note”.** The motion was adopted unanimously.
  5. Discussion on Off-Shoring and Outsourcing of Architectural Services (Verma)-A motion was made (Peck) and seconded (Wright). **MOTION: That Off-Shoring and Outsourcing of Architectural Services be incorporated into the work of the Drafting Panel on Codes and Ethics.** The motion was approved unanimously.
  6. Discussion on Development of a Practice Handbook (Emmitt/Barnard)-A motion was moved (Cox) and seconded (Abdelaal Aboseda). **MOTION: That a Drafting Panel compile a reference document of existing “Practice Handbooks”.** The document is to be posted on the PPC Website as an “Interim Practice Note”. The motion was adopted unanimously.
  7. Discussion on International Mergers and Acquisitions of Architectural Firms (Wachi)-A motion was made (Wachi) and seconded (Wright). **MOTION: That the report on International Mergers and Acquisitions of Architectural Firms be accepted and kept for reference.** The



motion was adopted unanimously. It was noted that the definition of “Responsible Control” should be addressed by the Drafting Panel on Codes and Ethics.

8. Discussion on UIA Member Sections: Roles and Responsibilities in National Government GATS Negotiations (Mohamed)-Two motions resulted from this discussion. The first moved (Wright) and seconded (Peck) addressed the larger issue of “Implementation of Standards”.
- MOTION: That the Commission create a Task Group to develop and execute an Implementation Plan. The Task Group is to consist of a minimum of five and a maximum of seven persons appointed by the Co-Directors and selected from a call for nominees. Nominees need not be members of the Commission. The basis of selection shall be the individual’s ability to envision a plan and execute it through professional associations, member-sections, governments and trade associations.** The motion was approved unanimously. The second motion was moved (Mohamed) and seconded (Cox). **MOTION: That the report on Roles and Responsibilities in National Government GATS Negotiations be accepted and the recommendations at the end of the report be referred to the Implementation Plan Task Group.** The motion was approved unanimously.

**Considerations and Requests compiled from Giancarlo Ius’s and Louise Cox’s Program Statements at the UIA Assembly** in Turin were presented by President Cox. The presentation asked that the PPC respond to Eight Topics (a total of 11 questions). The Commission will respond to the questions through its Co-Directors and will integrate the content into the 2008-2011 Work Agenda for further consideration at the 2009 Meeting.

**Offers to host future Commission meetings** were accepted by the Commission from:

1. India for 2009
2. Nigeria for 2010

**Motions of appreciation** were extended to the following:

1. Michael Peck for his dedicated and effective service over the course of the Commission’s life since its inception. Michael will be stepping down to be replaced by Graham Scott-Bohanna.
2. James Scheeler for his service to the Commission since its inception, including his service as Co-Director and Secretary and following that as



Liaison to the Education Commission. Jim was not in attendance at this meeting.

3. To the Conseil National de l'Ordre des Architectes du Maroc and especially to Firdaous Oussidhoum who coordinated the host activities.

The Professional Practice Commission concluded its stay in Morocco at a wonderful Celebration Dinner with the African Union of Architects.

Submitted by,

Douglas L Steidl, FAIA  
Co-Director and Secretary  
The UIA Professional Practice Commission