



Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice

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SCIPping Along

May 2006

Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, RA, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, SCIP

Editors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President:	John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP
Vice President:	Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP
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Immediate Past President:	Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, AIA, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP



Left to right – Dave Lorenzini, Tom Heineman, Helga Brady, Dane Dodd-Hansen, Mike's hand, John Regener, Linda Stansen, Mike Chambers, Dennis Hall, Dave Metzger, Sheryl Dodd-Hansen and Bob Johnson

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: TRANSITIONS**John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP**

President

Soon there will be a transition in leadership of SCIP as the 2006-2007 Board takes office. Change will continue as SCIP matures. Some members will welcome the changes. Others will resist. Most will be passive about it. Passivity is not good for SCIP. It makes SCIP less valuable to its members and the wider specifier community.

I will take responsibility for much of the lack of progress in getting SCIP's organization developed over the past two years. I even have some good excuses, but that's not the point. The next leadership team is going to accomplish much more despite the fact that everyone serving in SCIP office is busy. That means there are opportunities for service by other SCIP members. And this is an invitation for SCIP members and affiliates to get involved.

Yes, SCIP affiliates are welcome to participate in the committees and special projects of SCIP. It is the chance to get to know other specifiers better and to make a positive contribution to the specifier community. Contact any of the officers of SCIP and let it be known that you are interested in participating as more than a spectator.

Oh, yes there's the concern about being busy. So are all the members of the SCIP Board and so are most members and affiliates of SCIP. It's amazing how much of CSI's leadership at the Institute, Region and Chapter levels are SCIP members and affiliates. Particularly in CSI committee work, SCIP members and affiliates are shaping the future of formats and education. Yet, there is still time for many of these same people to make some contribution also of their time and talents for SCIP.

The successful SCIP business meeting and discussion forums on March 28, 2006 in Las Vegas have restored the tradition of SCIP members and others getting together to share information, be challenged about business practices, and build relationships. Through the day, 50+ specifiers attended. That's the good news. The bad news is, we've probably maxed out the roundtable discussion format. Future meetings will probably be more organized, with various members leading discussions on focused topics. That's not necessarily a bad idea but accommodation will need to be made for some of the time to be spent on the free-wheeling discussions around the group that many say is one of the main reasons they attend the CSI Convention.

I will be continuing on the SCIP Board as the immediate Past President. Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP will assume the office of SCIP President and I ask all SCIP members and affiliates to give him and the SCIP Board your support, constructive comments and offers of service.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, RA, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP

Immediate Past President

SCIP 2006-2008 Board of Directors: Ballots were received, tabulated and verified by the Secretary and communicated to the Board on March 24th. The results of the Election were announced at the Annual Meeting on March 28th. The 2006-2008 SCIP Board of Directors will be:

President:	Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP
Vice President:	Robert Johnson, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP
Vice President/Education:	Linda Stansen, RA, CSI, CCS, SCIP
Vice President/Website:	David Lorenzini, FCSI, CCS, SCIP
Secretary:	Michael Chambers, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP
Treasurer:	David Metzger, FAIA, FCSI, CDT, SCIP
Immediate Past President:	John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP

The new Board of Directors will take office July 1st, 2006.

CSI Board of Directors and Executive Committee: Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, SCIP, a past President of SCIP has been elected Vice President of CSI. She will serve on the Executive Committee and will be SCIP's Ambassador to the CSI Board. Her term of service will be from June 2006 to June 2008 and will succeed Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP in this position.

SCIP AT THE AIA NATIONAL CONVENTION, LOS ANGELES:
Los Angeles Convention Center, June 8th to June 10th, 2006.

Members of the Board of Directors will be present and representing SCIP in the CSI Booth during the Convention. Volunteers to assist in staffing the Booth will be needed. If you wish to assist please contact John Regener, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP at 949-653-5743.

NEW DIRECTIONS:

Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP

Vice President - President Elect

A few weeks have passed since the Annual SCIP meeting held on March 28, in Las Vegas, the day prior to the start of the CSI Convention, and I was asked to reflect upon the state of SCIP, the Convention, and other stuff. While I am not sure that three weeks gives me ample perspective for my observations, here it goes anyway.

SCIP this year has embarked upon a new vision and we have begun to turn that vision outward. We have established two strategic alliances with other allied organizations, first with CSI this past January and now with Construction Specifications Canada in April. These alliances are first steps to raising the profile of SCIP and our members within the construction industry, and it is beginning to work. This year, CSI President Michael Owen, FCSI addressed the SCIP membership at our annual meeting and all SCIP members were recognized at the CSI Gala at the conclusion of the Convention.

And while we are looking outward, the SCIP Board is also working on our primary initiative, to promote and drive business to our individual members. The Board approved a move to publish member contact information on our web site, investigate opportunities to improve our web site,

and create a committee to make recommendations on promotions. The Board confirmed our first obligation is to our members as an organization that promotes the practice of specification consulting as a profession.

Next year will be the 40th anniversary of the first organizational meeting of SCIP and we are already beginning to plan a celebration in Baltimore. More to come soon.

TECHNICAL

Robert Johnson, AIA, FCSI, CCS, CCA, MAI, SCIP

Vice President/Technical - Elect

SCIP is an interesting organization with a history that goes back quite a few years. If you are interested in knowing more about that history, Tom Heineman is the person to contact. Most of my contact with SCIP in earlier years was only as a liaison from CSI to SCIP during my years on the CSI executive committee. I only became a SCIP member about three years ago when I left RTKL and formed my own consulting practice. Thus my "insider" depth of knowledge about SCIP is not great.

My perception is that SCIP is going through some growing pains at the moment. The on-going discussion concerning the membership status of specifiers who are employed within firms and the resulting vote for a bylaw change is one obvious illustration of that. The current action to become a corporation is another. Current board discussions regarding formal relationships with other organizations and relationships with potential sponsors of the organization is still another. Several other such examples could be listed.

SCIP has traditionally been a relatively loose informal organization of independent specifiers whose major activity has been to provide a forum for the discussion of common issues and concerns. The yearly forum event has been the major method to accomplish this although other events and newsletters have also been utilized. In the past, one of the major benefits of the very low membership dues has been the free receipt of Sweet's Catalogs. The potential power and benefits of the SCIP website for the membership are just beginning to be properly recognized.

As I come on the SCIP Board this July, I would list the following as some of the major issues (not claiming to be a complete comprehensive list) that SCIP is facing in the near future:

- Clarification of the role of SCIP in relation to CSI as well as other organizations.
- Defining some membership benefit goals for SCIP to achieve.
- Establishing a business plan for their accomplishment.
- Projecting yearly budgets based on the business plan including both expenditures and revenue sources.
- Defining and establishing rules for revenue (or the offsetting of expenses) to SCIP from various commercial enterprises.
- Maintaining an appropriate balance between membership dues revenue versus other types of revenue.
- Maintaining the culture and benefits of the historic informal organization while accomplishing some of the above which by their very nature will require more formal actions.

I look forward to working with other board members in trying to plan and implement a proper future for SCIP. I certainly would like to hear from you about your thoughts on the above, the current status of SCIP and what it means to you, and where you would like to see SCIP go in the future.

UNIFORMAT

CSI is just forming a task team for the expansion and updating of *UniFormat*. This will be an effort somewhat similar to what happened with *MasterFormat*. The number of specifiers who have had significant experience with using *UniFormat* is not near as great as with *MasterFormat*.

The task team will be looking for people who have had experience and are interested in participating in this effort. This would include people who have had experience in using *UniFormat* for various purposes in addition to written documentation. If you think that you could help or know of someone else who could have them contact Roger Grant, Director of Technical Services and Development at CSI, 703-706-4740, RGrant@csinet.org; or Bob Johnson, Task Team Chairman, 505-281-6020, rwj@jandjconsultants.com.

EVENTS AND EDUCATION:

Michael Chambers, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Vice President/Education - Secretary Elect

The role of the building information model (BIM) in the recent CSI National Convention was many faceted. To some, it represents the next step in the electronic information arena. For others, it is a huge complex thing that hopefully will just stay "out there". Irrespective, BIM can be seen as an allegory of opportunity for specifiers and in particular for SCIP and its members.

For some of us, BIM will be a windshield and we will be the bugs. For others, they are the windshield and BIM is just another bug. I would like to suggest that BIM represents a multiple expansion of the specifier's role and is a clear expression that the specifier's skill set will not be going out of style anytime soon.

Paul Doherty, AIA, CDT, CSI, Craig Gilbert, CSI, CCS, SCIP, and Dane Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, SCIP are several members and friends of SCIP that are actively involved in elements of BIM. They are convinced that it is a significant and growing part of our modern construction industry. Therefore I believe it is incumbent upon SCIP to take cognizance of BIM and begin to develop a strategic vision for how SCIP will deal with BIM in the future.

Several questions need to be put to the membership to ascertain how BIM is perceived and what impact it may or may not have on the membership. What are SCIP member needs relative to BIM? What kinds of BIM experience and expertise resides in the membership? What role should SCIP play in the continuing expansion and development of the Building Information Model?

I propose that the Board consider appointing an Ad Hoc committee to begin the process of reviewing, identifying, and tracking BIM developments to see how they are going to affect SCIP members. Perhaps a BIM discussion forum could be instituted on 4Specs.com to begin the process of understanding BIM and its impact on the construction industry. In the future, perhaps a database of resources and links could be compiled along with a bibliography of useful BIM literature.

Inescapably, BIM is going to be a part of the specifier's world and SCIP is an excellent vehicle to provide commentary, resources, and insights into this expanding information tool and communication process. Change is upon us and BIM is merely an allegory for it. SCIP must determine if it is going to a windshield or a bug as the construction industry changes daily all around us.

Linda Stansen, RA, CSI, CCS, SCIP

Vice President/Education – Elect

Attending the SCIP meetings this year was as invigorating as ever. Our membership has grown and our spirit has maintained its unique individuality (read: everyone still has a different opinion). Our discussions are always lively and brutally honest. I like that. It keeps things interesting and energetic. This year discussion topics ranged from BIM (how do specs work with it?) to how are we to deal with what seems to be a shortage of new spec writers coming up the ranks? From

Masterformat conversion pains (what *are* these work results?) to the first draft of proposed changes to Section Format.

Put together, we are a huge resource for each other. This is obvious when you look at the variety of topics we hit upon when we meet. But our yearly meeting only touches the tip of iceberg – just look at the variety of discussion threads on 4Specs. I'd like to find more ways to bring that wealth of knowledge to all of us. At the same time, we have unique experience and a perspective that we can share with our clients and the rest of our industry members. How to read specs, how to write specs, what to do with Division 1 specs for a project (besides use them as a boiler), using UNIFORMAT for preliminary specifying and teaching why it is useful, etc. Some of this is addressed now by our alliance with CSI and our individual participation with CSI.

What I'd like to do, as your new vice-president of education, is formulate a two-fold approach to address our concerns as specifiers. We need to develop a way to disseminate our collective knowledge to our membership (education **of** SCIP members) more often than at a yearly meeting. We also need to find ways to mentor and educate our clients to enhance our relationship with them (education **by** SCIP members).

The first steps are finding out what our membership thinks and wants to do. We are allied with CSI now. I am not looking for duplication of effort. What I do seek is that perspective unique to SCIP that will enhance our individuality. Input from membership is vital to this effort. I welcome all comments and ideas, and look forward to serving as VP of Education.

WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS:

David Lorenzini, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Vice President/Communications

Since the website design was updated in early 2005, most of the activity managing the website has been maintenance. The news items on the home page are updated when new events are scheduled, or when some of our members make news. A series of insightful articles by Ralph Liebing are added each month. (They are short, and make a point. We applaud Ralph for sharing his volunteer efforts with us.)

However, the most time-consuming task is adding new members and updating existing addresses--about a dozen each month. That task will someday be turned over to the members themselves. We are in the process of evaluating web consultant services to create an interactive membership database where members will control their own information.

Several other improvements will be phased in as time and funds permit. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions to make the website work better for our membership, let us know.

MEMBERSHIP:

David Metzger, FAIA, FCSI, CDT, SCIP

Treasurer

We had a well-attended SCIP annual meeting at the CSI Convention--well over 50 SCIP folks were there, the best turnout since the 2002 Convention in Las Vegas. Especially gratifying was the number of new faces attending their first SCIP meeting. The most enjoyable part of serving as SCIP treasurer is corresponding with members from all over the country, and then meeting them in person at the annual meeting.

The exposure that SCIP has been getting from our raised profile and seminar sponsorships and endorsements over the past few months, as well as our changed Bylaws that "opened the door"

to non-independent specifiers, has resulted in increased membership. We gained eight new members and Affiliates during the annual meeting. We now have a total membership of 206, consisting of 168 Members, 1 Retired Member, and 37 Affiliates. As Dave Lorenzini noted on the SCIP homepage, the 100th member joined in the late 90s, about 30 years after SCIP was formed; SCIP has now doubled its membership in just about 8 years.

This year the Board of Directors decided to issue Membership Certificates to its members. Certificates were distributed to all attending members at this year's Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. Any member not in attendance may request a Membership Certificate and it would be mailed to them.

AWARDS:

Kerin (Dane) Dodd-Hansen, AIA, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP

Immediate Past President

Awards were presented at the Arkema Dinner on March 28th in the following categories:

Rascal Award: Presented this year to Mark Kalin, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP for his unwavering service to SCIP as the organizer of the 2005 National Specifiers Conference at EcoBuild America, as 2000-2002 President and 1999-2004 KnowHow Editor.

Past Recipients:

2004 - Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, LEED AP, SCIP

2005 - Colin Gilboy, PE, CSI, CCPR

EIEIO Awards: This award came into existence in 2005 on the occasion of the "Roast" of Dennis Hall when he was elevated to his second Fellowship at the AIA Convention.....because of the 7 sets of initials appended to his name. Subsequently, Dennis determined that this august honor could not be wasted on just him.....but should be inflicted upon other richly deserving SCIP members. The criteria for receipt of this award is that any two SCIP Members can nominate any Member who legitimately holds six sets of initials appended to their name. A minimum of three of these initials must be in recognition of licensure or certification by a recognized granting body. The remainder may be the initials identifying any recognized professional construction industry association, with fellowships in any of these associations counting as double. This year's recipients were:

2006 Recipients:

Douglas Hartman, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP

Creator of EIEIO

Stephen Andros, AIA, FCSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP

Michael Chambers, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP

Michael Chusid, RA, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP

Kenneth Crocco, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, SCIP

Robert Johnson, AIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, SCIP

Mark Kalin, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP

Lee Kilbourn, FAIA, FCSI, CCS SCIP

Harold McGee, ASLA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP

David Metzger, FAIA, FCSI, CDT, NCARB, SCIP

Jonathan Miller, AIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, NCARB, SCIP

John Raeber, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Paul Simonsen, AIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, NCARB, SCIP

Ross Spiegel, AIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP, SCIP

David Trudell, AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, SCIP

Wayne Watson, RSW, FCSC, FCSI, CCS, SCIP

Past Recipients:

2005 - Dennis Hall, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, LEED AP, SCIP

Award of Merit: This year all past Presidents were acknowledged with an Award of Merit for Distinguished Service. The recipients were:

2006 Recipient:

Kerin Dodd-Hansen, RA, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP – 2002-2004 President

Retroactive Recipients:

Douglas Hartman, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, LeedAP, SCIP – 1998-2000 President

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, MAI, SCIP – 1996-1998 President

Jo Drummond, FCSI, CCS, SCIP – 1994-1996 President

Tom Heineman, FCSI, CCS, SCIP – 1992-1994 President

John Raeber, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, SCIP – 1990-1992 President

Wayne Watson, RSW, FCSC, FCSI, CCS, MAI, SCIP – 1988-1990 President

David C. Moss, AIA, CSI, CCS, SCIP – 1982-1984

NEW CSI/SCIP HONORARY MEMBER AND FELLOWS:



George VanNeil, AIA, FCSI, CCS, Honorary Member



Left to right – Dane Dodd-Hansen, Dave Metzger, Rebecca Foss, Anne Whitaker, Jonathan Miller

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