



SCIPping Along

July 2011

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

Welcome to Fiscal Year 2012 and the first of several *SCIPping Along* newsletters that are intended to keep members informed about the activities of the organization during the year through reports from the officers. Please enjoy...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nina Giglio, CSI, CCS, SCIP



On June 17th SCIP held its FY2011 Annual Meeting via Conference Call; a number of members attended and we appreciate the interest that each of you have in SCIP. The Annual Meeting was held by conference call because Construct 2011 will be held in September and thus to conform with the requirement of the Bylaws this method would be the 1 year resolution to the conflict.

SCIP has continued to be a healthy and viable organization of specifications writers over the last year; our membership has stayed reasonably steady though we have had a number of affiliates that have transitioned into Member status and vice versa.

Unfortunately, we have not accomplished some of the goals that were set for the organization, and I look forward to having another year to correct those items. Given the state of the construction industry at large, it is important that SCIP is advocating for our membership. The knowledge base and the services that our members and affiliates provide to the industry is rarely recognized and even more often, not appreciated. It is my mission for SCIP in the coming year to bring more exposure to the work that our membership provides the industry.

With that being said, I would be remiss in not thanking several people for their continued work. Starting with the Board, both David Lorenzini, President-elect, and Mark Kalin, Immediate Past President: to just stand between these 2 giants in the industry is an overwhelming experience, and I appreciate their views of the industry, this organization, and thank them for all that they have done for both over the years. David Stutzman and Gary Beimers, our Vice Presidents: I may not have asked much of them this year, but I knew they would be there to perform the requested tasks with diligence. Walter Scarborough, Secretary, has stepped up to keep good meeting minutes and work with other members of the board on

accomplishing a few tasks. John Carter stepped into the Treasurer position, which were big shoes filled by David Metzger for the last 12 years. John has pushed, prodded and occasionally threatened me but we are close to having everything transitioned, as well as procedures put in place for future transitions. Finally, William Pegues, back as the Affiliate Director, has been stirring the pot to try and get some of the affiliate members more involved. To all, I thank you for your patience over the last year and I look forward to the coming year.

Other people that deserve a thank you for their work for SCIP include Lynn Javoroski who served on the CSI Awards Committee on behalf of SCIP. Holly Robinson, with assistance from Randy Reifsnider, whose combined effort has developed the SCIP LinkedIn group. Dane Dodd-Hansen who has prepared member certificates and Sheryl Dodd-Hansen who has stood ready to edit *SCIPping Along*.

I'm certain that I've forgotten someone, and for that I apologize.

Additionally, we offer two of our members our congratulations on their elevation to CSI Fellowship this year: Lynn Javoroski, SCIP Affiliate and Peter Jordan, SCIP.

Events at Construct2011

Registration for Construct2011 is now open and SCIP is in its final planning stage for our events. This year we will not be meeting on Saturday after the convention, instead we will hold the FY2012 Annual Meeting and Forum on Tuesday September 13th, which will also include a recap of the FY2011 Annual Meeting. Watch the website for finalized information in the coming weeks.

Webinar

On August 30th as part of the CSI Webinar Series, Nina Giglio, SCIP President will present a Webinar titled "Care and Feeding of Your Specifier". This webinar will explore what a Specifier does, and how to tap into that wealth of knowledge. The Project Manual is a tangible deliverable but really only a small component of the expertise offered by a Specifier. Each of you knows someone who should attend this session. Please make certain they are aware of the opportunity by visiting www.csinet.org/webinars.

ARCOM Discount

Several members have contacted the SCIP Board inquiring why ARCOM has reduced the discount on subscription renewals for SCIP members. Prior to this year, there was no discount provided by ARCOM to SCIP members. In the past, both CSI and AIA held "endorsing organization" status with ARCOM; because the overwhelming majority of SCIP members were also affiliated with one or both of those organizations, there was limited reason for the SCIP Board to pursue a separate discount. ARCOM has moved to a tiered discount structure, which has added SCIP, ASHRAE, and ASCE to their list of organizations that are eligible for a discount. If you have further questions please feel free to contact SCIP President Nina Giglio. ngiglio@hbig.us

PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REPORT

David Lorenzini FCSI, CCS, SCIP



Website Surveys

During FY2011, we implemented some maintenance and administrative procedures regarding the member database on the website. When the fiscal year started, John Carter took over as Treasurer, as well as Membership Chair. This was the first change of Treasurer/Membership since the database was added to the website. The administrative changes included adding a Notes column for remarks and

reminders available only to the webmaster and treasurer, the ability of the treasurer to print any search or member category to an Excel file, and more flexibility in setting up member status codes.

During the year we also experimented with a survey feature. There were three successful surveys before the system failed. Here are some of the results, in case you weren't paying attention at the time.

1. Web Site Access - As of May 30, 2010:

How often do you access scip.com?

First time	58%
Less than once a month	21%
About once a month	11%
Between one and five times a month	5%
More than five times a month	5%

2. Publications - As of June 30, 2010:

How do you check or read publications available in the scip.com home page?

a. KnowHow

Never	56%
Sometimes	33%
Often	11%

b. *SCIPping Along*

Never	33%
Sometimes	50%
Often	17%

c. Liebing Articles

Never	33%
Sometimes	11%
Often	56%

3. Product Data Resources - As of December 31, 2010:

In what form do you prefer to store and access product data for specifications?

a. Sweets Catalogs

Exclusively	30%
Frequently	5%
Hardly ever	65%

b. Manufacturer Catalogs or CDs

Exclusively	30%
Frequently	5%
Hardly ever	65%

c. Manufacturer Websites

Exclusively	57%
Frequently	40%
Hardly ever	3%

d. Ask Another Specifier

Exclusively	30%
Frequently	50%
Hardly ever	20%

The final survey regarding the use of online payments for annual dues and other SCIP events did not produce valid results. However, the board has approved the addition of an online payment system that members may use to pay dues by credit card. We expect this system to be operational in late summer or early fall.

As always, if you have any questions regarding the use of the website member directory or a suggestion to improve the website, contact the webmaster at webmaster@scip.com.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Stutzman, AIA, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP



The SCIP bylaws were reviewed for potential updates and clarifications that will be presented to the membership for ratification. Walter Scarborough, John Carter, Nina Giglio, and I all contributed the review to identify the issues found in the document and to propose corrections. Now we will take the suggestions and draft the actual revisions that will be presented to the board and then the members.

Many of the corrections are editorial in nature just to make the document tidy and consistent. Hopefully these will not be controversial for the membership. Minor revisions to the definitions of Members and Affiliates will be proposed. Text will be added to permit the use of "SCIP" and "SCIPa" acronyms by members and affiliates to designate membership in the organization. Administrative revisions for the Secretary and Treasurer's duties will be proposed to reflect how the organization is currently maintaining membership records and collecting dues. Both these duties are performed by the Treasurer.

Other administrative revisions include the definition of quorum and the conduct of meetings and elections, and methods of notices and communications to the members. It was suggested that electronic communications may be able to replace paper and US mail. We know this is radical and will likely be contentious, so be prepared for the debate.

The most significant changes may be concerning dues collections and members' status as a result of non-payment. SCIP has been generous by allowing members much latitude for paying dues, especially with the current economic conditions. Currently, the bylaws provide for automatic termination for non-payment after 90 days past the due date. We are considering whether to propose a change that will allow members to retain their original "member since date" by paying delinquent dues or by some other method.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gary Beimers, FCSI, CDT, SCIP



I wish there was more to report; it has been mostly a year of participating in Board Meetings, learning the ropes, and assisting where requested. I have cooperated with Dave Lorenzini regarding the SCIP booth and collateral materials. I am looking forward to working more actively with Dave to complete booth improvements in preparation for CONSTRUCT and the CSI Convention in September.

I have been elected to the CSI Board as Director from the Great Lakes Region. In that capacity, I have been assigned as Liaison to the CSI Technical Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT & MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

John Carter CSI, CDT, SCIP



Happy New Year - SCIP's Fiscal Year 2012 is now under way, as of July 1, 2011. So, many of you have already sent in your annual SCIP membership renewal checks this month, and the rest of you are being reminded to get those checks in the mail soon. Thanks!

Since we're starting a new SCIP year, I wanted to share some membership statistics for the past year:

- We now have a total of 202 members in SCIP (158 professional 'AP' members, 41 affiliate 'AC' members, and 3 retired 'AR' members). Year to date, our membership has declined by 5 percent.
- Despite membership being lower, we still see a steady stream of inquiries and new member applications - usually 1 or 2 a month.
- A few members that dropped out for a few years have now rejoined SCIP for the new year.
- One member retired this year.

For the Treasurer and Board, the new fiscal year means that it is "budget" time, as the Board plans SCIP's operating budget for the new fiscal year.

After analyzing last year's budget compared to our income and expenses for the year, I am pleased to report that we have stayed on or below budget in all categories, so we're in good shape financially.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Walter Scarborough, CSI CCS, AIA, SCIP



In addition to recording the minutes of Board Meetings and the Annual Meeting, and tending to other administrative matters, I have participated in the bylaws study along with Nina Giglio, John Carter and David Stutzman. David Stutzman's report summarizes the bylaws study well and the forthcoming recommendations that will be presented to the membership for consideration.

Note from Editor: Refer to www.scip.com for minutes of the June 16, 2011 meeting. SDH

AFFILIATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

William Pegues, FCSI, CCS, SCIP-Affiliate



This Spring a direct contact with Affiliate members was begun. Though the response was not large, it was consistent. Both current Affiliate members as well as those recently non-renewed were asked for a response to what benefits or shortcomings are related to membership in SCIP and what were Affiliate members looking for that they do or did not receive.

Those responding that had chosen not to renew their membership did so because of a change in job description, no longer a specifier, or where specifications had become a very small scope of their activities.

Those current Affiliate members that responded said they enjoyed the organization and participated from the sense of community that SCIP offers them, and these also expressed a desire to see the organization expand the opportunities for 'face to face' interaction and discussions.

There were no negative responses. That makes for a truly good sounding response, but again, it was a small percentage of Affiliate members that responded.

If there are others that wish to register their opinions, there was no deadline. Feel free to contact me at any time. Your interests and opinions will be brought to the attention of the board. My email address is: Wpegues@wdgarch.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mark J. Kalin, FAIA, FCSI, CCS, LEED-AP, SCIP



Historically, whenever the economy wakes up, we should be in for a great five years! Please send me an email if you know the date it all starts. Please also email if you are interested in any of the following and I give you my specifier's promise to keep the ball rolling.

BIM: As 80 percent of the architects are using BIM software, we've started to receive finish legends generated from BIM, and firms are asking that we add technical info into the attribute files of their Revit families. One design firm has been hired to do an as-built BIM model and we get to put the spec info in. A drywall subcontractor is drawing every building into BIM and asking we just use a short-form spec. Your experience?

Green: It seems it's all about LEED credits in my part of the country, and the specs have become very tailored - no asking for massive amounts of data from the subcontractors. The LEED administrator works with the CM for the likely candidates for credits like recycled content and regional materials, and only those sections contain those requirements. The new LEED flooring credit and FSC credits are a bit of a

nightmare to understand. Go to the CSI website for the CSI Sustainable Facilities Practice Group recordings of Richard Moore's presentations on the new LEED requirements for FSC wood and for Floorscore flooring. Attend on-line July 19 from 3-4 for a presentation on "Green Specs Today"

KnowHow: Would be great to revive our newsletter - please share your thoughts and articles by July 31 and we'll see how far we get.

Transitions: Several members have asked about transitioning into fewer hours, selling their firm, or 'gasp' retiring. Likely we can get an expert from PSMJ to give us a briefing on the options. Email if you are interested!

LegalLine: Don't forget that SCIP is a subscriber to LegalLine - your questions answered at no cost to you, heuerlaw@aol.com or 617-628-5290.

CSI TechCom: Working on standardized submittals by CSI section, evaluating manufacturer's Environmental Product Declarations, specifiers property sets in BIM. Stay tuned!

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