



IAWA Saturday working meeting notes.

27 October 2007, 4:30 PM, Home of Donna Dunay, Blacksburg, VA

IAWA Advisors and Guests present: Anna Sokolina (honorary), Martha Thorne, Gail McMillan (archivist), Kristine Fallon, Lisa Tucker (future advisor), Bill Galloway (future advisor), Milka Bliznakov (founder), Kathleene C. Arceneaux (KC), Lois Gottlieb, Donna Dunay (director/chair), Gerri Schaad, Ochirpureviin Sarantsatsral, Marcia Feuerstein (secretary, past chair), Jack Davis (Dean).

IAWA Advisors absent: Marilyn Casto, Solange d'Herbez de la Tour, Kay Edge (treasurer, newsletter), Ioana Plesca, Ute Westrom, Junko Matsukawa-Tsuchida, Barbara Nadel, Despina Stratigakos (honorary), Ann Wittlin.

Donna Dunay reviewed the schedule and agenda for tomorrow's annual meeting as well as the materials in the folder each advisor received: agenda, new charter, which was accepted by the University, IAWA list of advisors. She asked each advisor to review and correct the information on the IAWA list of advisors and return to Marcia Feuerstein for revisions. Donna described the UIFA conference in Bucharest, Romania, where she met IAWA advisors who were unable to attend this annual meeting, as well as "Women in Modernism", a lecture at MOMA on Thursday 25 October and sponsored by the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation.

She opened the floor for general questions and discussion:

Anna Sokolina discussed the need to have letters of thanks sent to the donors of the Russian collection she's brought into the Archive. These donations have not yet been acknowledged to the Donors. This is important if she is to continue to collect Russian materials. Dr Sokolina's contacts are unwilling to continue to contribute unless they receive acknowledgement of donations.

Martha Thorne asked about the collection development policy. Anna Sokolina wondered about organizing this as a global map, etc. Gail discussed AIA archivist's compilation of women members and possibility of exchanging information with the IAWA Biographical Database. KC Arceneaux discussed her work on a new IAWA website which could be supported with GA assistance through joint funding (Library and Architecture). She's looked at the Smithsonian and other museum websites. Kristine Fallon discussed digital archives and global mapping developed at MIT, which will be ready for dissemination within 2 yrs. Marcia Feuerstein discussed past mapping done in preparation for 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibit by IAWA GTAs, which became the basis for the exhibit as a good way to begin.

Anna asked about the expectations for an honorary advisor. Marcia noted that Anna was the first honorary advisor to be elected. She noted that it was open to whatever that advisor wanted to contribute. It is a non-voting elected ongoing position for someone who wants to promote the IAWA in whatever way they can. However that person is not required to attend the annual meeting and does not vote. Donna Noted that honorary advisor activities should mirror the IAWA mission statement found in the IAWA Center Charter 2007.

Gail McMillan commented on the charter. She said that the first sentence rewrites the history of the organization when it leaves out the role that the library has played. She passed around the Bylaws of the IAWA and the brochure that Milka designed as examples of official IAWA documents that state that the IAWA is the joint program of the University Libraries and the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech. Many Advisors sitting around the table nodded in agreement and Donna said she would do something about it. Gail also asked that the Board consider making the IAWA Archivist a voting member.

In preparation for next day's meeting, Donna asked advisors, outgoing advisors and future advisors to describe plans for the future year:

Milka Bliznakov will continue to collect as long as she is able. She developed a list of women whose work to collect that she will provide to the board of advisors tomorrow.

Bill Galloway, incoming advisor, plans to pursue work from first female licensed architect of Dominican Republic, who was then dean of the college and then president of the university. This is an area of interest by Bert Rodriguez and Kay Edge, who acquired archives from Cuba. Bill also suggested that the Newsletter could become a small scholarly journal. Feuerstein agreed, and noted that this was discussed in the past. It could also include research from the Milka Bliznakov prize. Gail said she could help, that her department publishes journals online for scholarly organizations and could do so for the IAWA. See <http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/>.

Lois Gottlieb: continue to collect archives – a drawing or entire collection no matter what kind of architect, etc. Also wants to make sure that the IAWA needs money and assurances that the money is used for the IAWA. Donna noted that the charter makes this very clear. Kristine Fallon asked who had seen the approved Charter.

Martha Thorne: Since she is new, she will listen before deciding how to contribute. She would be interested in helping with contacts in Latin America if she is able. She also wonders how to identify potential works of the archive since it is always a value judgment (collection development policy.) Gerri Schaad noted that according to the charter, the advisors discuss the collection. They also provide direction and suggestions to the archivist.

Lisa Tucker, incoming advisor, will work with Marilyn Casto to develop a course on Women in Architecture. She's also working on a dissertation on the history of American house design, and will be using the archive for this research

Kristine Fallon continues her attempts to acquire the work of Chicago architect Natalie De Blois, who worked for SOM for 40 years, working with Gordon Bunshaft in NYC and Bruce Graham in Chicago. Her papers were sent to someone who is currently researching her biography rather than the IAWA. Once complete, the papers will come to the IAWA. She is also working on acquiring drawings etc by Gunda Stagdalín, a Chicago architect originally from Turkey, especially an unbuilt house and other drawings of residential projects. She is working on acquiring some work from Gertrude Nerbus, another Chicago architect.

Gail McMillan: Special Collections received a Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation grant which was matched by the library, to upgrade online information for the IAWA, for the biographical database, creating introductory homepages. They have until September to do this. She created entries for the IAWA in Wikipedia.<sup>1</sup> and WAAND<sup>2</sup>.

Martha Thorne: Will wait and see how she can fit in

Anna : See above

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<sup>1</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Archive\\_of\\_Women\\_in\\_Architecture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Archive_of_Women_in_Architecture)

<sup>2</sup> <http://harvest.scc-net.rutgers.edu/waandjat/new/dir/ambersearch3.php?query=iawa&field=row&searchtype=simple&highlighting=&maxnum=10&sset=1>

Marcia Feuerstein: Continue to identify architects in the Washington DC area as well as reinitiate the HABS project of identifying potential built projects in the USA to be included in HABS documentation. Initiated talks in 2004 when first learned of million dollar bequest. Will continue.

Ochirpureviin Sarantsatsral: will discuss at annual meeting

Gerri: continue to promote IAWA. As curator of images at Dumbarton Oaks, she can act as a contact with faculty and students. Many Russian scholars use the facilities so can be a conduit for Russian materials.

7:30 Broke for Dinner, Jack Davis (Dean) and Bert Rodriguez (honorary) arrived.  
The meeting resumed at 9:00 PM.

Donna Dunay discussed plans for an IAWA 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, noting that the next UIFA conference is the same year. She asked for ideas for the celebration and thoughts to link yet not conflict with the UIFA conference. Each advisor and guest made a number of suggestions. Most agreed that the celebration should not conflict with the UIFA conference, but could begin simultaneously on a global scale as an exhibit in a number of countries and end with a physical exhibit with lectures, etc. in Washington DC, perhaps at the National Building Museum. A number of ideas and strategies were discussed. It was suggested that organizers could use ideas from plans for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Meeting ended at 10:00 PM

Notes respectfully submitted 10 December, 2007 by Marcia Feuerstein, Secretary, with corrections, additions, and changes by Advisors Dunay, Sokolina, McMillan, and Thorne.