



Jeff Phillips, President, CEFPI Australia

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We are now a region!

At the October CEFPI Conference in Atlanta the by-laws for the Australasia Region were unanimously endorsed by the International Board and the region formally comes into being on January 1, 2005.

This is a significant step for CEFPI members outside of the US and particularly in Australia and Asia as we now fully represented on the International Board with equal rights and have a voice to bring our issues and needs before them.

In our quest to become a region we received a great deal of support from other regions and people throughout the US and Canada, and in particular the North West Pacific Region and Kathy Christie and Hugh Skinner.

The Australian Chapter Executive spent several months preparing and refining the by-laws to ensure they would reflect our unique needs and way of operating. The Executive will now meet in Melbourne on the 9th and 10th of December to discuss priorities for the new region and to review our strategic plan.

Your views are needed on what should be our priorities for the new region and you should make them known either directly to your local board member or to me at jeff.phillips@det.wa.edu.au

Atlanta Conference

Greg Strickland and I were the two lone Aussies at the 81st Annual Conference held in Atlanta, Georgia from the 21st to 24th October, 2004.

The conference was a great non-stop event spread over four days of ceremonies, seminars and socialising. With over a thousand delegates, a hundred trade exhibits and a large architectural exhibition of award winning schools it was more than Greg and I could cover. Hopefully a few more members from the region will be able to attend the September 30 - October 3, 2005 conference in San Antonio, Texas so we can keep our members better informed of the outcomes.

I attended seminars on High School Planning: The Relationship between School Infrastructure and Student Achievement; Linking K-12 to Post Secondary and beyond; Elementary School Design Workshops and The 21st Century High School. If anyone would like information on these seminars please contact me at my email address.

While I did not feel particularly challenged by much of the content, I thought that there was a consistent common purpose in the presentations. The presenters were all trying to find better ways of planning and building schools and their stories and studies gave great support to the overall purpose of CEFPI, to make the learning environment better for all learners.

I visited three education sites as part of the conference and post conference. Georgia Tech with its Global Learning and Conference Centre; Chattahoochee Technical College and Kell High School and have photos and information on those if anyone is interested. Student amenities, recreation areas and performance spaces are greatly enhanced above the standard provided in most public schools in Australia. It appeared to me however that in one school I visited, many of the classrooms, labs and staff areas although newly constructed still look like classrooms from the sixties and have little flexibility and adaptability. It is always unwise to generalise after seeing such a small sample and I would be keen to hear from members who have seen or know of more innovative school designs in the US.

The highlight of any conference is usually the people you meet and the networks you establish and Atlanta was no exception. Those of you who have been to CEFPI conferences in the US know how warmly we are received and how eager people are to talk to you about what they are doing and listen to your ideas, if as I often suspect, just to listen to the Aussie accent.

I promoted the Tasmania Conference as often as I could, including showing a DVD from the Tasmanian Tourist Bureau and gave out brochures, so hopefully we will get a few of our US buddies down under next April.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR STATE OR TERRITORY?

Each State offers activities for members so if you have not felt engaged with CEFPI, contact your local board members and find out what's happening. Their contact details are available through the CEFPI web site www.cefpi.org and then go to the Australia Chapter link.

Planning for the Conference in Hobart is well underway and details of this are on the web site. Tim Gourlay, Janet Brewer and their team have put together an interesting program and as the annual conference is the major event of the year for CEFPI members I encourage you all to sign up, and bring a friend.

Best wishes to all members for the festive season and we should all look forward to an invigorating and productive new year.

Western Australia

In WA links are starting to be forged between CEFPI, The Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA), Australian College of Educators (ACE) and the Australian College of Educational Leaders (ACEL) through CEFPI hosting events to which members of all organisations are invited. This is seen as a way of bringing the educational and architectural communities together to learn from each other and to discuss and debate important issues related to educational facility planning. Events were held in August, September and October with more planned for 2005.

In August Jeff Phillips made a presentation to CEFPI, RAIA, ACE and ACEL members on an OECD Seminar he attended in London in May on "Creating 21st Century Learning Environments" The presentation highlighted the major points from several of the papers presented and provide images of new and refurbished schools projects established through the UK "schools for the future" and "Exemplar Designs concepts and ideas" initiatives.

In September Randy Fielding conducted a half-day interactive workshop with 35 CEFPI members, architects, students and educators on "24 Design Patterns for Innovative Learning Communities" The workshop was held in the University of Western Australia's Faculty of Architecture, a venue that added value and ambience to the event and gave undergraduate architecture students an opportunity to attend.

As a pre-conference event to the October 2004 ACE/ACEL National Conference in Perth, a tour was arranged for delegates to visit two new Government Secondary Schools. Under the banner, The Year of The Built Environment "Practice in Place", the tours focused on seeing the impact that innovative educational practice has on school design.

Victoria

Science and Technology Facilities; What are we Building for the Future and Why?

22 October 2004

Trinity Grammar School

The CEFPI Victoria group met at Trinity Grammar School in the CEFPI Award winning facility to hear from the Architect, Peter Crone and the school about the project, and to view several other options.

Three other interesting science projects were presented also. Further information is on their web sites.

The Victorian Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAG)

GTAG is Australia's first purpose designed gene science research and study facility where scientists and high school students work together. GTAG is a unique collaboration between 5 organisations including education and research bodies.

www.tectura.com.au

Rosebud Secondary College

This standard science centre which has traditional style science laboratories and a shared common area for group learning and private study provides a valuable learning resource for the school and its community.

www.priorcheney.com.au/rosebud.html

Bacchus Marsh Science Technology Centre

BMSTC is a pathways demonstration project under the innovations and partnerships program conducted by the Victorian Education Department. It provides for self paced and project based learning in a purpose built facility that incorporates many ESD features.

www.lyonsarch.com.au

<http://www.lyonsarch.com.au/t.asp?ItemID=t/t10>

South Australia

RAIA National Award for Sustainable Architecture

Mawson Lakes School, South Australia, is the 2004 winner in this category with the design attributed to Russell & Yelland Architects and MGT Canberra Architects. Congratulations to Andrew Tidswell (DAIS) John Held (Russell & Yelland), Stan Salagaras (DECS) and Alan Peucker.

CONNECTING WITH CANADA

Hugh Skinner, Canada

Congratulations to Hugh Skinner, incoming CEFPI International President Elect 2004 - 05. Hugh will take his place on the executive committee at the annual conference in Atlanta in October 2004. We hope to see Hugh in Australia some time in the future.

Canada and Australia share a number of common issues in planning and delivery of schools, so the following information may be useful.

Government of British Columbia

Capital improvements to schools are 100% funded by the Provincial Government of British Columbia. A collection of schools in a geographic area has an administrative framework called a School District. There are approximately 65 School Districts in British Columbia. The School District applies to the Provincial Government on an annual basis for capital grants which may include: new school, addition to existing school, major renovation, a grant for minor renovations, or a "special" project (eg seismic upgrading).

School building condition management is an issue as illustrated in the web site:

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/keyinfo/pdfs/building_conditions.pdf

Resources found in the Capital Planning Branch of the Department of Education:

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/capitalplanning/resources.htm

BC Hydro is a crown utility that supplies electricity throughout the Province of British Columbia. It offers innovative programs on conserving energy:

www.bchydro.bc.ca/education/ps_students/ps_students_5098.html

Government of Alberta

Capital improvements to schools are funded by the Provincial Government of Alberta, as for British Columbia. An interesting new document from Alberta Infrastructure is: "Sound-Field Systems Guide for Classrooms".

www.infras.gov.ab.ca/Content/doctype486/production/SoundFieldGuide.pdf

The Government of Alberta is philosophically committed to reducing its reliance on borrowing for capital projects and is strongly encouraging Public Private Partnership (3P) projects. The 3P Guidance Document can be found at:

www.infras.gov.ab.ca/Content/doctype447/production/P3%20Guidance%20Document..pdf

Government of Saskatchewan

Capital improvements to schools are partially funded by the Provincial Government of Saskatchewan through the Facilities Branch of the Learning Department.

www.sasked.gov.sk.ca/branches/facilities/index.shtml

YEAR OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (YBE2004)



As the Year of the Built Environment moves into its final stages, it is appropriate to identify some of the outstanding achievements.

The National Round Table

The National Round Table meeting by key organisations with the Federal Minister raised the level of discussion about the built environment and the need for policies and strategies to ensure we achieve, retain and maintain quality in the planning, building and use of our built environment.

The National Exemplars Awards

The National Exemplars Awards recognise people, places, projects and ideas. The awards will be announced on 23 November and on the web site:

www.builtenvironment2004.org.au

NSW Houses of the Future

Innovative projects included the NSW Houses of the Future in which designers have created futuristic homes from clay, concrete, timber, cardboard, steel and glass. These amazing homes, representing the latest ideas in sustainability, were displayed on the forecourt of the Sydney Opera House before moving to Sydney Olympic Park to form the hub of an education centre. See the homes on the web:

www.housesofthefuture.com.au

Sustainable Demonstration Homes

The Sustainable Demonstration Homes project has been a core achievement of the Year of the Built Environment in Queensland. The project involves a partnership between local governments, industry and the Queensland State Government to build a series of display homes that exemplify environmental sustainability and smart housing initiatives.

YouthQuake

YouthQuake is the national initiative for under 35s to stimulate their thinking about the future and how they can contribute to the built environment.

The Year will also leave a legacy for schools and school design with a number of new design components developed for the Design and Technology Unit in NSW, the reinstatement of the "Designers in Schools" education program in Victoria and the involvement of many schools in developing and implementing YBE ideas. In the new development area to the north of Adelaide, Burton Primary School has developed a partnership with local government, the developer and the building companies and the students are learning first hand about planning, design, construction and management.

Further details about YBE and access to all State web sites at: www.builtenvironment2004.org.au

CONFERENCES

This year there have been a number of excellent conferences to discuss new ideas and visit sites to see how these ideas are being realised on site. These are some of those attended by CEFPI members and associates during 2004.

Sydney, New South Wales

Facilities Design + Learning: Has the paradigm changed?

21-23 April 2004

The CEFPI Annual Conference was held in Sydney and attracted a lively audience from diverse backgrounds. Stimulating speakers and a wide range of interesting site visits made this an outstanding event.

http://australia.cefpi.org/sydney_postconf.html

Adelaide South Australia

LETA 2004

30 August 2004

The 6th Learning Environment Technology - Australia (LETA) event was hosted by DAIS Building Management and the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS).

www.leta.edu.au.

The keynote speaker was Randy Fielding from DesignShare, USA whose web site includes a wide range of useful information:

www.designshare.com

2004/2005

DIARY DATES

2004	
Date	2004
Event	Built Environment 2004 (YBE)
City	Australia-wide National & local events
Contact	www.builtenvironment2004.org.au
Nov	
Date	1-4 November 2004
Event	OECD PEB
City	Montreal, Canada
Contact	www.oecd.org . <i>Seminar on information and communications technology and educational property management.</i>
Dec	
Date	9-10 December 2004
Event	Board Meeting
City	Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
2005	
Jan	
Date	18 -22 January 2005
Event	OECD PEB
City	Kobe, Japan
Contact	www.unisdr.org/wcdr <i>"The World Conference in Disaster Reduction". Share best practices and lessons learned to further disaster reduction within the context of sustainable development. Identify gaps and challenges; increase awareness of policies and their implementation. www.unisdr.org/wcdr</i>
Apr	
Date	20 -22 April 2005
Event	CEFPI Australia Annual Conference
City	Hobart, Tasmania, Australia
Contact	www.cefpi.asn.au www.cefpi.com

