

## MINUTES OF MEETING

7.30am, 10 March 2009, in the Dean of Architecture's Conference Room, Wilkinson Building

Present: Michael Neustein (chair), Ken Woolley, Tim Osborne, Varoujan Bedrossian, Brian Griffin, David Turner, John Elliott, Julia Wilson, Vesna Trobec, Emma Brown, Nic Moore, Timothy Dolan, Kristine Sodersten

Apologies Warren Julian, Peter Poulet, Varoujan Bedrossian

### MATTERS DISCUSSED

#### 1. Philanthropy/Fund-raising/Donations

- TD comment upon philanthropy and development strategies: the existing (and past) structure was that of a centralised fund-raising effort undertaken by the university, but this would probably develop towards faculty focused fund-raising efforts – key to the success of this is that everyone within the faculty is dedicated to a common cause.
- A regular gifting scheme could be set up for/with alumni of the faculty
- Any fund-raising effort should be predicated on PASSION and a VISION with the objectives of this effort should be aimed towards specific outcomes that are appealing and inspired such as – to make the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning the BEST in the nation.
- How does this occur? Through a habit of giving, perhaps the faculty “can develop as the pre-eminent institution in Australia” (quoted text being our VISION).
- At the ‘pre-gift’ stage, any fund-raising scheme should be smart about what is being said/asked and it is helpful to be mindful about making sure that the funds are directed correctly as outlined in the initial donation request/approach.
- Those who bequeath money are often very savvy when they donate which means they want to see the results of their donation, and are specific in their instructions. They donate often, beginning with smaller regular amounts. Statistics have proven big bequests are made by individuals who have an extended history of donating.

NM identified that architects in particular, have contact with financially successful clients who share our VISION and all we need to do is engage with these clients and inspire them to assist us.

TD indicated that bequests are more likely made on the basis of PASSION rather than a sense of LOYALTY to a particular institution.

#### 2. A teaching subject on construction

- KS indicated a keenness to see the realisation of an educational subject that assists students to experience the ‘making’ of architecture through engaging them with authentic construction projects.
- In such a subject students would witness/experience and chart the construction of a building.
- Was the Council in a position to assist developing this? The Council generally indicated a willingness to pursue this idea.
- TO identified issues of insurance faced with the AIA mentor program and giving students access to construction sites. KS indicated that the university insurance would cover the students if they were enrolled in a subject specific to the initiative.

#### 3. In Praise of Process exhibition

- TO noted that there was still no volunteer to be the gallery attendant on April 18.
- TO gave a brief outline of the budget.
- TO indicated he was successful in obtaining an ISBN for the publication.
- TO + JW would liaise with the mailing of invitations.

4. SUDA
  - NM + VT outlined the new initiatives for the re-invigorated SUDA (previously SONA)
  - New name
  - New logo
  - New website
  - NM + VT asked the Council to consider assisting with funding
  - Council indicated that they would assist in funding in the same manner as previous years.
  
5. SUAAA Constitution
  - TO noted that there were some small amendment that needed to be made to the Association's Constitution.
  - It was resolved to be put on notice for the next meeting.
  
6. Other matters
  - JW + JE would review the reunion package for the next meeting.
  - JW reported to the Council on the Spring-back-to-Sydney initiative for 2009.
  - BG + JW indicated they were awaiting contact from Anne with regards to the archives.
  - JE noted that the alumni survey questions had been finalised and posted.
  - JW noted the appointment of the new faculty manager Helen Triantafyllou.
  - DT gave an update on the Alumni awards initiative for 2009. He indicated that the ARO would undertake the responsibility of nominating individuals for Australian Honours.
  - KW noted that the SMH had published an Honours List for 2008, and notably the architecture awards were not included.

Meeting was closed at 9.10am.