OAAAS

Ontario Association for
Applied Architectural Sciences

NEWSLETTER   APRIL 2009

Issue Highlights:

Report from the President

**OAAAS RECEPTION
You Are Invited!**

On Thursday, May 7 from 5:30-7:00 pm, OAAAS will host a reception for Toronto-area technologists, delegates to the Annual Conference of the Ontario Association of Architects and friends of the OAAAS.

In celebration of the OAA Conference being held nearby, Harbourfront Centre is kindly providing its new Architecture Gallery as the site for the reception. The current exhibit is *Building on History*, a look at how some of Toronto's most historic buildings have been creatively transformed into functional and modern spaces, which preserve our rich cultural heritage.

All Toronto-area technologists are invited to the reception.

Non-members can learn more about how joining the OAAAS can be a positive career move and lead to certification as a Licensed Technologist OAA. Members can help us celebrate our past year's successes. Architects can learn how the OAAAS program benefits Ontario architectural practices.

The reception is further evidence of the strong commitment of OACETT and OAA to our program. They launched OAAAS in 2003 as a way for qualified technologists to be able to join the OAA and be considered as part of Ontario's architectural profession.

If you are receiving this Newsletter, you are invited to join us on May 7th for a drink and snacks by the lake. Invite your co-workers as well. As long as they work as a technologist and give us their email address, they are welcome to come. Please confirm your attendance with Rommy Rodriguez at 416.621.9621 ext. 265, or rrodrqiguez@oacett.org

I look forward to seeing you on May 7th at Harbourfront Centre, 235 Queens Quay West, Toronto.

Trevor Onken, C.E.T. is president of OAAAS and former president of OACETT.

For your invitation to the OAAAS reception visit:
OAAAS RECEPTION INVITATION
&
For more information on Harbourfront Centre's new Architecture Gallery and current exhibition, *Building on History* visit:
ARCHITECTURE GALLERY

Report from the Executive Director

REMINDER ABOUT CONTINUING EDUCATION

"There is still time to register for the OAA Annual Conference, being held May 6-9 at Toronto's Westin Harbour Castle hotel.

Many of the Conference seminars qualify as core learning hours."
Garry Neil

As an integral part of your professional responsibilities, OAAAS Technologists and Licensed Technologists OAA are committed to the principles of life-long learning. Through the OAA Continuing Education program, you can develop your skills and keep abreast of developments in the field.

This is an important time to remind members of this responsibility, since the current two-year cycle for continuing education concludes this year. There is also still time to register for the OAA Annual Conference, being held May 6-9 at Toronto's Westin Harbour Castle hotel. Many of the Conference seminars qualify as core learning hours.

By December 31, 2009, members must register the following number of hours in your continuing education file on the OAA website:

Licensed Technologist OAA
35 hours of learning (28 hours self-directed; 7 hours CORE learning)

Technologist OAAAS
5 hours of learning (11 hours self-directed; 4 hours CORE learning)
The Licensed Technologist OAA is responsible for one-half the number of hours of an architect in the province. This is important to note because there are maximum numbers of hours that can be claimed for various activities. You can find these charts on the OAA website.

If you look at the OAA chart for self-directed hours you will see that it outlines the maximum number of hours (out of a total of 56 self-directed hours) that an architect can claim in each category. OAAAS members may claim a pro-rated maximum number of hours based on this chart, as well as on the one for core hours. As an example, activities undertaken by members on behalf of OAAAS (Board, committees, representations, etc) fall in the category of Committee Meetings, in which a Licensed Technologist may thus claim a maximum of 12.5 hours and a Technologist may claim a maximum of 6.25 hours.

Individuals certified as a Licensed Technologist OAA may carry forward a maximum of seven self-directed hours and four hours of CORE learning. This policy does not apply to those designated as a Technologist OAAAS.

Questions should be directed to Ellen Savitsky, OAA Continuing Education Coordinator at ellens@oaa.on.ca.

Garry Neil
Executive Director/
Registrar

ADVANCED STANDING POLICY UPDATE

The first ten candidates to apply for advanced standing in OAAAS are now preparing for the interview stage of the process. A team of architects will interview the candidate about their work on three projects that were submitted as part of the portfolio they prepared for consideration by the OAAAS Admissions Committee. Those who successfully complete this interview are eligible to attend the OAA Admission Course being held May 6-8 at Toronto's Ryerson University.

As these first candidates have moved through the process, there have been some important lessons and decisions that should smooth the way for future candidates.

Candidates Must Show a Range of Work Experience

As reported in the last newsletter, the Admissions Committee examined the project summary sheets to make sure the candidate had sufficient experience in each of the 15 work experience categories to qualify across all ten of the submitted projects.

The Committee is also inviting all future candidates to identify the three projects on which they would prefer to be interviewed. The only criteria are that the recommended projects should include different building types and a cross-section of work experience. In selecting the three preferred projects, the candidate should also make sure that the detailed documentation will be available.

Project Summary Forms

Several candidates misunderstood the percentage figures required on the project summary forms. The candidate should outline the percentage of the **overall work** on the project which s/he undertook. In other words, if the candidate worked alone on the project, s/he would report in each of the 15 work experience categories that they completed 100% of the work. If the candidate was not involved in programming and shared the design development work with one other person, the candidate would report 0% in programming and 50% in design development.

Projects Which Do Not Require an Architect

For one of the candidates, the Committee accepted a project summary sheet for a project that did not involve an architect. It was a very large home that the candidate had undertaken as a consultant and, since it was within Part 9 of the Building Code, no architect was required. The Committee also decided that this project would be one of those on which the candidate would be interviewed since it showed a full range of experience.

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Advanced Standing Policy (…continued)

Foreign Projects

Finally, the Committee discussed the possibility of permitting a candidate to use a foreign project. They decided that one or more foreign projects could be submitted if necessary to demonstrate work in a category where the candidate may be lacking in domestic experience, and providing that it is additional to ten Canadian projects.

For more information, please consult the ASP program guide on our website (www.oacett.org or www.oaa.on.ca). You will also find there a description of the work experience categories and how much (equivalent) experience needs to be shown in each one. If you want to discuss your own situation, please contact Garry Neil, Executive Director at 416.621.9621 ext. 229 or gneil@oacett.org.

Launched in 2003 by the Ontario Association of Architects and the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists, OAAAS is a forum for establishing the education, experience and examination requirements, as well as scope of practice, for three categories of building designers: Associate OAAAS, Technologist OAAAS and Licensed Technologist OAA. The OAAAS program ensures that standards and qualifications are maintained and the public interest is protected.