

# **TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OF THE OAA**

#### **OAAAS NEWSLETTER**

ISSUE No. 2 - July 2013

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# Message from the President

It's an exciting time to be a part of the OAAAS and I'm proud to have been elected as the new president. Under our previous president's direction, we've seen an increase in the awareness of our program and growth in all categories of membership. Since I became a licensed technologist in the beginning of 2010, the number of technologists licensed by the OAA has more than doubled from around 30 to 70+. I see that trend continuing.

In the upcoming term, we anticipate seeing the continuation of our very successful student awards program and raising awareness of the OAAAS at the colleges, continued efforts to market the OAAAS to technologists in architectural practices, and the renewal of our examination. I have big shoes to fill. Past-president Roland Mech has been a part of the OAAAS since the beginning and was one of the first seven technologists to be licensed. I want to personally thank Roland for all of his efforts; they've been invaluable in the growth of our association. I also want to extend my gratitude on behalf of the members to Gene Stodolak. Gene is OAAAS member number one and has been a real driving force behind the association's creation and continued growth. In recent years, he has acted as the OACETT representative on our board. His experience with being a director with various organizations and his knowledge of the educational system have been extremely helpful. Roland and Gene: thank you very much and good luck with your future endeavours!

I'd like to give thanks also to our Executive Director, Garry Neil, and to the Administrator, Rommy Rodriguez. Their tireless work running all the behind-the-scenes aspects of the OAAAS and their advocacy on behalf of members contribute greatly to the success of the OAAAS.

I look forward to hearing all your input on the direction of the program through <u>president@oaaas.ca</u>.

Regards, Jeremiah Gammond, Lic.Tech.OAA

# Message from the Executive Director

At June's Annual Meeting, a new OAAAS Board of Directors was elected, with several new faces and new leadership for the organization.

Jeremiah Gammond, a Licensed Technologist OAA in Thunder Bay, was elected president. Jeremiah has been a board member for two years and just recently established his own practice. Jeremiah has already indicated he will have a strong agenda as president to raise the profile of technologists within the practice of architecture in Ontario. You can contact Jeremiah through <u>president@oaaas.ca</u>. Brian Luey takes over as the treasurer. Brian is an architect in Oakville and an OAA Council member who has served one term on the OAAAS Board.

We have three members who are joining the Board for their first term:

- Mark Howson, a Licensed Technologist with his own practice in Ottawa
- Ottawa architect **Tony Sproul** who is also an OAA Council member, and
- **Shervin Reyhani** from Cambridge who is the new representative of OACETT.

Returning OAAAS members **Dominic Serravite** from Toronto and **Rick Mateljan** from Oakville, join Oshawa architect **David Mills** to complete the Board of Directors for 2013-14.

The June meeting also represented the final meeting for several long-serving Board members. As I noted in the most recent newsletter, Roland Mech stepped down after six years on the Board. Roland was one of the first technologists in the province to be a Licensed Technologist OAA and the very first to serve as president of the association, which he did for three years. OAA member James Farrow joined the Board as the treasurer the year that Roland became president. Together, they presided over the transition of the OAAAS to becoming the Technology Program of the OAA. Gene Stodolak also stepped down from the Board. Gene has been a huge supporter of the OAAAS program from his days as president of OACETT and was at the founding meeting. During his first stint on the Board Gene was president for one year and his latest term began in 2010. As the president notes in his report, Gene Stodolak holds OAAAS membership card #1. Thanks to Roland, James and Gene.

Garry Neil Executive Director | Registrar

# New Exam Date Format

Effective January 1, 2014, only two examination sessions will be held a year. Selected dates will be set according to the first Friday after June 15 and first Friday after Remembrance Day in November. Future dates will be as follows:

Friday, November 15, 2013

# Friday, June 20, 2014 and Friday, November 14, 2014

#### Call for contribution to the next newsletter!

We would love to hear from our members.

We invite you to submit a newsletter article or event information that you would like share with your fellow colleagues. Submission deadline is September 21, 2013. Please send to <u>RommyR@oaaas.ca</u>.

#### Join OAAAS on LinkedIn!

Invitations to join the Member-Only OAAAS Group Page were sent out to members. We look forward to welcoming you shortly.

# What's in a Name?

Nurse, doctor, mechanic, carpenter, lawyer, prostitute.....architect. These occupational titles are wellseated in the vocabulary of most. They are descriptive and, though there's variance in the specific duties and specialties these professionals perform, it's generally understood what they mean. Some are even evocative, due in most part to romantic portrayals in popular media. Say "lawyer," and some might picture a passionate and moving discourse delivered by a highpowered individual with magazine cover good looks. Say "architect," and some might picture the artistic eccentric creating designs the likes of which no one's ever seen, perhaps on a napkin. Usually they're fashionably dressed and, of course, very wealthy.

Say "Licensed Technologist OAA" and you're usually met with blank stares and slow blinking, perhaps even the sound of crickets, real or imagined. Absent a bigbudget Hollywood movie starring a struggling, but ultimately triumphant licensed technologist, I find it's necessary to resort to an expanded description for what it is I am and what it is I do and why it's valuable.

So, as a self-employed licensed technologist, how do I describe myself? I start by explaining that I'm an architectural technologist (a protected title, by the way.)

Blinking rate starts to increase a little, possibly accompanied by a slight tilt of the head.

"I used to work for an architect."

A slight head nod, maybe even an "oh."

*Sigh* "I draw blueprints for buildings." (I omit the explanation that blueprints aren't made anymore and that the ammonia is toxic to our environment)

"Oh, I see!"

This painful (but thankfully short) conversation is almost always accompanied by this follow-up exchange:

"So, uhh, what's the difference between an architect and an architectural technologist?"

After trying many different approaches, the following is what I usually resort to:

"It's like the difference between a doctor and a nurse."

"Oh! So you do all the work!"

Answering with a chuckle and a "yeah, sure" usually seems to please the inquisitor.

Thankfully, the occupational description of architectural technologist is well-understood within the AEC industry. But, when speaking to laypersons, I've found the nursedoctor comparison to be fairly effective, perhaps not completely relevant, but effective nonetheless.

Our particular occupation is different in that the best title to describe what we do is actually a title protected under the Association of Architectural Technologists of Ontario Act, 1996 (AATO Act). OAAAS associates or technologists are not permitted to use the title "architectural technologist" as an occupational description. However, the AATO Act provides exceptions for licensed OAA members:

It is not an offence under subsection (2) for the following persons to use the designations "architectural technician" or "architecte-technicien" or "architectural technologist" or "architecte-technologue":

1. *A* holder of a license, certificate of practice or temporary license issued under the Architects Act.

This means that those who have passed through all levels of the OAAAS and have become licensed as technologists by the OAA may indeed call themselves "architectural technologists." Architects, incidentally, may do so as well.

Through conversations with students and other technologists in the field, it's become clear that the right to use this designation is important. So, for those of you who have made it and are licensed with the OAA as a technologist, be proud of the unique designation you've earned. Feel free to call yourself an architectural technologist and a Licensed Technologist OAA.

Article written by Jeremiah Gammond, Lic.Tech.OAA, President OAAAS

# New Licensed Technologists OAA Members

Aaron Ashley	Daniel Guillemette
Mark Beens	Brandon Martin
Yan Cheng	Daniel Tessier
Jeffrey De Decker	

# **In Appreciation**

OAAAS would like to thank the following firms which supported their employees as they worked to achieve OAA Licensure as Licensed Technologist OAA (Lic.Tech.OAA):

#### Glos Associates, Civitas Architecture Inc., Hossack and Associates Architects Inc., Larocque Elder Architects, Inc. Toronto Transit Commission, Yallowega Belanger Architecture

# **OAAAS Welcomes New Members**

Bryan Boak	Stephanie Hutton	
Sanjay Chauhan	Wojtek Kowalewski	
Allison Evans	Cuth Bert Negapatan	
Geoffrey Holt	Kenny Tam	

# **Submitting Your Work Experience Hours**

If you are new to this responsibility, do not worry, it is not as daunting as it seems. Submitting your work experience hours involves keeping track, logging and periodically submitting your newly accumulated work experience hours to the OAAAS Administrator in an <u>OAAAS Experience Record Book</u>. Once your hours have been calculated you will be sent a Summary Report that will outline and highlight the areas and specific hours that are still required to move to the next level of certification. For specific instructions, visit:

http://www.oaa.on.ca/the+oaa/allied+organizations/oaaas, click on the OAAAS grey tab labeled: EXPERIENCE.

We recommend that you review the following documents to help you map out the <u>number of work experience</u> <u>hours</u> that you require for each level of certification and to assess under what specific categories these hours should be placed. These documents can be found in the <u>OAAAS Program Guide</u>.

# **Categories and Experience Areas (Page 10) Experience Area Description and Required Activities (Appendix B)**

New Members can also take advantage of a limited time opportunity to submit retroactive work experience hours accumulated prior to joining OAAAS. This must be done within the <u>first three months</u> from the date you become an OAAAS member and can potentially give you a head start in reaching Technologist OAAAS membership. We highly recommend that you respect your submission deadline once you begin logging hours, since it makes it easier for you and OAAAS. If you cannot, we ask that you please inform us.

Members have also found it beneficial to engage their supervising Architect or Licensed Technologist OAA early on in the process. This way they will have the opportunity to understand your future work experience requirements for purposes of completing your certification. Employee time sheets can also be very useful. Logging your ConEd Activities (hours) for Cycle 2012 - 2014 running from July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2014

- 1. Go to <u>www.oaa.on.ca</u>, click on Professional Resources, scroll to Continuing Education
- 2. Click on the grey **TRANSCRIPTS** button located on the left hand side. This will direct you to the **OAA Member only Login page**. Click on **Cycle 2012-2014**.
- 3. Type in your **OAA username** and **password** that were issued to you when you became a member. If you have a problem with your coordinates, please contact <u>RommyR@oaaas.ca</u> or <u>coned@oaa.on.ca</u>.

#### **New Format**

Qualifications for 2 year Cycle	New ConEd requirements
Technologists OAAAS	<b>15 hours of learning</b> (minimum of 5 hours of structured learning)
Licensed Technologist OAA	<b>35 hours of learning</b> (minimum of 12 hours of structured learning)

# Changes

Changes have been implemented to the OAA ConEd program to harmonize the rules between provincial architectural associations. The changes are:

- The end of a two-year cycle moved from December 31 to June 30.
- The former learning categories, CORE and Self-Directed were eliminated and the program now simply requires **Structured and Unstructured Learning hours**.

The ConEd responsibilities for Technologist OAAAS and Licensed Technologist OAA ConEd have remained the same, but are now to be recorded in the new format noted above.

# **New ConEd Program**

The Program is now based on a 2-year Cycle <u>beginning July 1</u> of even numbered years. The <u>reporting</u> <u>period runs from July 1 to June 30 biennially</u>. To implement the transition, the current cycle now runs from January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014. The following ConEd Cycle will run for two years beginning July 1, 2014.

The following OAA website links provide information on the current Continuing Education Program.

Learning Activities Eligibility Criteria

Structured Learning

**Unstructured Learning** 

**Program Requirements** 

Please note that the 2010-2011 Continuing Education cycle is now closed for on-line entry. OAAAS Administration will now have to report these hours for you. Contact <u>RommyR@oaaas.ca</u> if you require this service.

#### TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OF THE OAA

# **OAAAS STUDENT AWARD for TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE in ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY**

On May 12, 2013, the inaugural OAAAS student awards were presented before a captive audience of over 350+ delegates at a 2013 OAA Conference Networking Luncheon. The event was a huge success. President Mech observed that it the most attention that the OAAAS program has ever had amongst such a large group of architects." As a result of the success, the Board of Directors have approved the program for a second year.

The OAAAS student awards were organized in partnership with seven of the province's post-secondary institutions. Participating colleges were Algonquin College, Ottawa, Centennial College, Toronto, Fanshawe College, London, George Brown College, Toronto, La Cité, Ottawa , Loyalist College, Belleville, and Mohawk College, Hamilton. We would like to thank the participating colleges whose contribution, support and enthusiasm guaranteed the success of this new initiative.



Two levels of awards were presented – one for the best individual project and – one for the best group project. The Jury evaluated the following aspects of each submission and granted awards for projects that excelled in addressing them:

- Design/Concept
- Sustainability
- Technical Skill (Presentation/Drafting, Construction Detailing)



We would like to extend a special thank you to James Farrow of Farrow Dreessen Architects Inc., who generously sponsored the inaugural awards in honor and memory of his colleague Jason Birch (pictured at left), one of the very first Licensed Technologists OAA.

In addition, we would also like to extend our gratitude to the college and provincial adjudication jury members who volunteered their time and expertise to make the selection of award recipients:

College OAAAS Jury members - Mark Howson – Lic.Tech.OAA, Chris Oke – Lic.Tech.OAA, Daniel Tessier – Lic.Tech.OAA, Domenic Serravite – Lic.Tech.OAA. Provincial OAAAS Jury members - David Mills – OAAAS/OAA Representative, Brian Abbey – Specialist in Building Code, and Rick Mateljan – OAAAS Technologist.

# The 2013 OAAAAS Student Provincial Award Winners were:

# Group Project Category - 1st Prize Award - George Brown College

- Daniela Cuzzucoli
- Crystal Yousif
- Joseph Tontodonati
- Scott Anastacio

# Group Project Category - Honorary Mention - Algonquin College

- John Oulton
- Daniel Wraggett
- Paul Lortie
- Kelsey Pinhey

# Individual Project Category - 1st Prize Award - Loyalist College

• Rosalind Chow

# Individual Project Category - Honorary Mention - Centennial College

• Sanjay K. Chauhan











300 Front Street- 1st Prize Scott Anastacio, Daniela Cuzzucoli, Joseph Tontodonati, Crystal Yousif George Brown College



Pietro Ferrari, Daniela Cuzzucoli, Joseph Tontodonati, Scott Anastacio, Crystal Yousif, Marlene Slopack (From left to right)



*Front Helix - Honorary Mention* Sanjay K. Chauhan **Centennial College** 



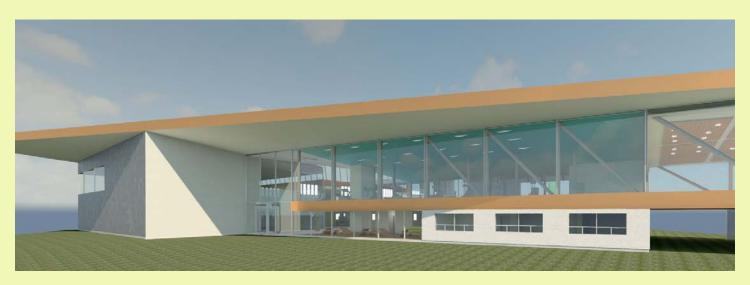
Garry Neil, Sanjay Chauhan (From left to right)



David Mills, Sanjay Chauhan, John Romanov (From left to right)



# The provincial award winners were:



Recreation Facility - 1st Prize Rosalind Chow Loyalist College



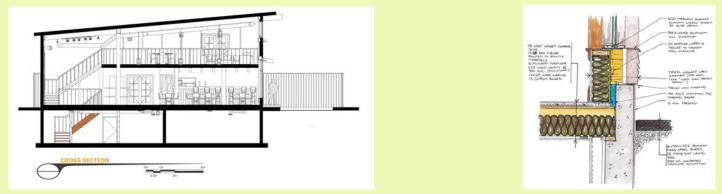




Garry Neil, Rosalind Chow, James Farrow (From left to right)







Vibration Cafe and Studio -Honorary Mention Paul Lortie, John Oulton, Kelsey Pinhey, Daniel Wragget Algonquin College



#### 2013 -14 Board of Directors

Jeremiah Gammond — President Brian Luey — Treasurer Garry Neil — Secretary Mark Howson — Board Member Richard Mateljan — Board Member David Mills — Board Member Domenico Serravite — Board Member Anthony Sproul — OAA Representative Shervin Reyhani — OACETT Representative

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The Ontario Association for Applied Architectural Sciences is an association for technologists working in the architectural field. Through OAAAS, a qualified professional can become a **Licensed Technologist OAA** and member of the Ontario Association of Architects.

The OAAAS establishes the education, experience and examination requirements for three categories of building designers: **Associate OAAAS**, **Technologist OAAAS** and **Licensed Technologist OAA**. The OAA Council has established the scope of practice and the terms of the limited licence.

