



A I B C 02/07

intern architect update

Intern Representative

Lisa Kwan's current one-year renewable term as Intern Architect representative to Council and ancillary member of the Intern Architect Committee will be ending at this year's AGM. All Interns interested in being nominated for the position of Intern Rep' are encouraged to apply! For a sense of how Lisa Kwan has been representing the interests of Interns and the profession, see her blog www.youraicinternrep.blogspot.com. Would you like to be the next Intern Rep? The Call for Intern Architect Nominations for Election to Council will be mailed out shortly and is available online at www.aibc.ca. Nominations will close on March 22, 2007 at 4:30 p.m.

Graphics Exams Seminar

The Committee has booked Professor Norman Dorf to present his seminars on the NCARB graphic exams on Saturday November 24, 2007. Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in attending this seminar. Sign-up for the courses will occur in late September. Watch for more info in upcoming Newsletters.

ARE Preparation Seminars

The next seminar will be covering the Construction Documents and Services exam. Have you started writing the exams yet? Construction Documents is a good exam to start the process. See www.areforum.org/forums/view_topic.php?id=3595&forum_id=10&highlight=fin for more on possible exam sequences.

It is beneficial to have reviewed the study material before attending the relevant seminar; this way you can have questions prepared for the presenter. There will also be an Intern present who has recently written the exam to answer specific questions you may have.

Overtime

Thank you for your responses. Your Intern Representative has raised the overtime issue with the AIBC Council over the last six months. As a result, the AIBC has issued reminders to ensure that the profession is aware of the minimum employment standards of the province. Keep an eye out for AIBC updates and summaries of these initiatives in upcoming newsletters. A collective thank you to Lisa Kwan IA.AIBC for her perseverance.

Oral Reviews

February's Oral Review session is now complete. The next session will be held in mid-June, to be followed by another session in October. The application forms for the Oral Review will be posted on the AIBC web site in the Intern Architect section approximately 4-6 weeks prior to the session dates. An announcement will be e-mailed to all Intern Architects when the application is available.

Construction Documents and Services

Monday, March 26, 2007
Presenter: Bruce Knapp MAIBC

General Structures

Monday, April 16, 2007
Presenter: Scott Kemp MAIBC
and Bill Cosman P.ENG.

Mechanical & Electrical Systems, Part 1: Mechanical

Monday, May 21, 2007
Presenter: Asif Hussain P.ENG.

Mechanical & Electrical Systems, Part 2: Electrical

Monday, May 28, 2007
Presenter: Samira Verjee P.ENG.

Lateral Forces

Monday, June 25, 2007
Presenter: Dan Wicke P.ENG.

Graphic Exams

Monday, September 24, 2007
Presenter: Tony Yip MAIBC

Pre-Design

Monday, October 22, 2007
Presenter: Robert Grant MAIBC

Upcoming Lectures Presented by Light Resource

Offered by the UBC SALA

Wednesday, February 28 at 6:00 p.m.
UBC, Lasserre Rm.104

Julie Eizenberg

Konig Eizenberg Architecture, Santa Monica

Wednesday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m.
UBC, Lasserre Rm.104

Dr. Kazimierz Butelski

Associate Professor, Faculty of Architecture,
Krakow University of Technology

intern architect update



ARE Candidates - Updated Information

All ARE Candidates are encouraged to visit the NCARB web site (www.ncarb.org/are/index.html) for the most up-to-date information. Current updates include:

- Thomson Prometric Web site
- ARE Guidelines
- Alternate Item Types

Construction 2007

You are invited to bring family & friends to tour this inspiring sculpture exhibit. 26 teams, dozens of amazing sculptures, and over 100,000 cans!

March 4th through 11th, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Open to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Vancouver Cruise Ship Terminal at Canada Place, North Foot of Howe Street, Vancouver.
Free Admission; Donations of cash or non-perishable food are appreciated.

Avi Friedman

The City of Vancouver has invited Avi Friedman, Director of Affordable Housing Program at McGill University to discuss innovative approaches to achieving a sustainable city. Saturday March 3 at the Alice Mackay Room at the Vancouver Public Library. Free lecture, reservations required: (604) 873-7707.
www.vancouver-ecodensity.ca.

At the Architecture Centre Gallery

The winners of the IDIBC Awards of Excellence will be displayed in the Gallery. Come see the best that BC Interior Designers have to offer. The exhibit opens Thursday, March 1, 2007.

Tip of the Month

The best way to get started on the NCARB ARE exams is to sign up for one! Go to www.prometric.ca for the registration page. You will need your ARE candidate number, which you received from ARE Operations along with the ARE Guidelines when you were first approved as an Intern Architect. If you have misplaced your number please contact Róisín O'Neill at roneill@aibc.ca.

Go to www.areforum.org to look at recommended exam sequences if you are unsure of which one to do first. Most people start with *Materials & Methods* or *Construction Documents*. Give yourself about four weeks to study, or three weeks if you're very committed!

Blog Plug

Lisa Kwan ^{IA.AIBC} is your Intern Representative to the AIBC Council and sits on the Intern Architect Committee. She also keeps a blog to report on policy and architecture related issues. Visit her site; send her your input and contribute ideas for how to improve the Intern Architect Program at www.youraibcinternrep.blogspot.com.

Writing Materials and Methods

by Lisa Kwan ^{IA.AIBC}

A former co-worker/former Intern said that the best way to get those nine NCARB exams finished was to just get out that credit card and book 'em. I think he booked all of them at the same time. Being a little more tentative, I'm booking them one at a time.

After booking *Materials & Methods* for late December, I quickly got into a habit of studying at the Main St. Bean on weekend mornings - and like a sprite got there by 9:00 a.m. because otherwise there were no seats and tables left. By the last week it got into the evenings: go straight home, inhale leftovers, study at the Bean for 3 hours ... or the length of time it takes to go through 2 teas and 2 refills.

Last Saturday afternoon I made my way down to Metrotown, the location of these exams. What better place to bone up on my materials and methods than by examining the glass elevator (hydraulic? electric? geared or gearless? how fast? what capacity?) that went down to the *Canadian Idol* competition.

Chauncey Group is, I believe, basically the Canadian arm of Thomson Prometric agency. TP claims to be "the leading global provider of comprehensive testing and assessment services." They test who-knows-what for certification boards ranging from our very own NCARB to the American Association for Lab Animal Science to NAVY/WSESRB Weapons System Explosives Safety Review Board. One learns so much in the process of becoming an architect.

The actual test centre is called Cambridge College - no relation to the US or UK institution of the same name, I suspect. Cambridge College is on all the Metrotown directory boards - it's about a five to ten minute walk from the SkyTrain end of the mall. It's on a "professional" level a floor above all the hubbub - take the elevator at the 'Grand Court' next to the Food Fair.

Cambridge College is an un-mally type of place - dark, dark blue everywhere and high-back chairs, all oozing the sort of richness of a mythical institution for higher learning. You give them the picture ID they ask for. You sign in, and get a key to put your stuff in a 12 x 12" locker. For *Materials & Methods* you get two pencils, scratch paper, and a simple calculator.

There's a testing room right behind the front desk, where there are about 10 carrels with a computer in each. There's also a set of wood shop ear muffs so you don't get distracted by all the clicking and typing around you. Very thoughtful. When the computer program starts there are 15 minutes set aside to learn how to navigate and mark questions you might want to return to. At the end there's an option to return to all questions, or just the marked ones. There's a clock that displays how long you've got left.

So that's that! Easy as pie. It will now be just a matter of weeks, perhaps months, before I learn my mark on this computerized, multiple-choice exam. Pay and pray. I've just booked my next exam, *Construction Documents*.