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Garry Neil
Executive Director/
Registrar

416.621.9621 x229
gneil@oacett.org

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Report from the President

Let me start by wishing everyone the very best for the holiday season and the New Year!

Earlier this year, OAAAS launched the Advanced Standing Policy (ASP), a time-limited process through which *senior technologists* can pursue certification as a Licensed Technologist OAA, based on their work experience and education. The ASP has a 12-year experience rule, combining the length of your degree/ diploma studies and work experience. For example, candidates with a three-year technology diploma must have nine years work experience to qualify; and a candidate with a four-year degree must have eight years experience.

Candidates must show they have experience in a full range of work categories.

The OAAAS Admission Committee recently made a few minor tweaks to the process and established an important deadline for those of you working on an application. The adjustments are reported on page 5.

The important deadline is that OAAAS and OAA have confirmed that **candidates who file their application by December 31, 2008 will have an opportunity to complete the ASP process by June 2009.**

We highly recommend that you act now and submit your application before the end of 2008.

If you do not file by this deadline, you will not be able to qualify to become a Licensed Technologist OAA UNTIL MID-2010, AT THE EARLIEST. Keep in mind that you must satisfy the interview team, attend the OAA Admission Course and pass the OAAAS examination to become licensed. The fast-track route is now available to you, but only if you act before December 31.

We look forward to hearing from you in the next few weeks.

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

Report from the Executive Director



"If you work at an office with other technologists and would like me to make a presentation, talk to your supervisor and give me a call."

Garry Neil

Momentum continues to build at OAAAS. As more professionals and recent graduates become aware of the opportunities available to them through the OAAAS, we have been welcoming new members and processing applications for advanced standing (ASP). We also conducted an OAAAS examination for members who attended the 2008 OAA Admission Course.

In the past few weeks, I've had the pleasure to meet many technologists in architectural practices throughout Southern Ontario to discuss the advantages of the OAAAS program. I have also visited five community colleges to talk with architectural students about the career opportunities available to them when they join the workforce and seek certification

through OACETT and OAAAS. These exchanges are both a challenging and satisfying part of what I do for OAAAS.

Garry Neil
Executive Director/
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Recent Addition to the OAAAS Team

This past September, OAAAS hired Ms. Rommy Rodriguez as a part-time administrator. In addition to having solid administrative experience, Rommy attends evening classes at Ryerson University in the Certificate of Architecture program in pursuit of her architectural technology degree, so she has a direct interest in what we are doing.

As a result of having more support, we have eliminated our administrative backlog. In particular, we have completed processing all work experience reports submitted prior to mid-November.

Rommy will be in the office three days a week, mainly Tuesday-Thursday. She looks forward to getting to know OAAAS members.

Reach Rommy @
416-621-9621 x 265
or by e-mail
rrodriguez@oacett.org

DID YOU KNOW?
YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GET YOUR ANNUAL DUES
FOR FREE!

As a member of the OAAAS, you are entitled to participate in the affinity programs offered to members of both OACETT and OAA. These include group insurance plans at preferential rates. One member noted at a recent meeting that the money he saved on his car insurance was enough to pay his annual OACETT membership dues!

Visit www.oacett.org or www.oaa.on.ca for more information, or call us.

Hours, hours and more hours...

Becoming a *Licensed Technologist OAA* requires candidates to document and submit their work experience hours to the OAAAS. These hours can be submitted on forms available at www.oaa.on.ca.

All members (other than those already qualified as Licensed Technologists OAA) are reminded that you must complete and submit the work experience record books for each 1,000 hours you work, as well as when you change employers.

Each report must be signed and initialed by the supervising architect and sent to OAAAS no later than eight weeks following the end of the reported period. If you don't file your work experience record book on time, a late payment charge will be applied.

The only exception to the late payment charge is for new members. Individuals who join OAAAS are permitted to file retroactive work experience record books, providing this is done within three months of joining.

In our recent experience, some new members can document significant prior experience and thus move well along the path.

The work experience record books are an essential part of your OAAAS program.

If you have questions about them, or if you are unable to submit one by the deadline date, please contact Vera Alexeeva at: valexeeva@oacett.org 416.621.9621 x 223.

The work experience record books are an essential part of your OAAAS program.

OAA ADMISSION COURSE

*OAA Admission Course
is scheduled for
May 6 to May 8, 2009
Final date for
registration is
January 23, 2009*



The date of the 2009 OAA Admission Course has been moved forward to coincide with the OAA Annual Conference. The Admission Course is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6 to Friday, May 8, 2009. The final date for registration is January 23, 2009. All OAAAS members who plan to attend must register through OAAAS. To attend, members must have been certified as an OAAAS Technologist no later than November 5, 2008 and must have filed at least 2800 total

work experience hours by the registration deadline date. In early December, an information email will be sent to all members we believe to be eligible. If you don't receive one and think you're eligible, contact Vera Alexeeva: valexeeva@oacett.org 416.621.9621 x 223.

Note that the January 23 registration deadline does not apply to candidates who apply for advanced standing by December 31, 2008.

If you are planning to file an ASP application, you should also keep open the Admission Course dates since you will be eligible to register for the course when you pass the interview assessment process that will take place in March.

2009 OAA Annual Conference

*Many of the OAA
conference
seminars qualify as
core learning hours
for purposes of the
OAA Continuing
Education Program*

The OAA Annual Conference will be taking place in Toronto May 8-10, 2009. OAAAS members at the Technologist OAAAS or Licensed Technologist OAA levels may be interested in attending the OAA Annual

Conference, since many of the seminars organized qualify as core learning hours for purposes of the OAA Continuing Education Program. You can visit the OAA website, www.oaa.on.ca, for more information.

Congratulations to OAAAS Members!

Licensed Technologists OAA

Congratulations to fellow members ***Michele Suriano*** and ***Jean Audette*** for achieving Licensed Technologist OAA accreditation in 2008.

OAAAS Examination Results

Congratulations to the following members who in September 2008 passed the OAAAS examination, the final step to becoming a Licensed Technologist OAA:

Olga Bejarano ***David Falkanger*** ***Greg Fedko*** ***Chris Oke*** ***Mark Primiani***

Advanced Standing Policy - Update

If you are a *senior technologist* who wants to qualify to become a Licensed Technologist OAA in 2009, you must file your application for advanced standing no later than December 31, 2008.

Please also take note of the following information from the recent meeting of the OAAAS Admission Committee.

From the ten project summaries included in your ASP application, you should highlight three of these projects that you would prefer

to be chosen for the interview process. Although, the Committee reserves the right to chose alternates from the ten, they will try to accept your preferences.

The Committee does not expect a candidate to have a full range of experience on each of the ten submitted projects – they will assess all projects to confirm you have the overall scope of experience necessary.

Lastly, an important reminder: If you are an experienced candidate who is not yet a member of OAAAS and OACETT, you can apply simultaneously for the ASP and for your necessary OACETT certification. The assessment processes take place concurrently.

If you have any questions at all about the Advanced Standing Policy, please contact Garry Neil at 416.621.9621 ext. 229.



PHONE:
416-621-9621

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Garry Neil
Executive Director/
Registrar
Ext. 229
gneil@oacett.org

—
Vera Alexeeva
Admissions Coordinator
Ext. 223
valexeeva@oacett.org

—
Rommy Rodriguez.A.
OAAAS Administrator
Ext. 265
rrodriguez@oacett.org

—
FAX: 416 621-8694
—
www.oacett.org

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10 Four Seasons Place
Suite 404
Toronto, ON
M9B 6H7



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.