



Ontario Association for
Applied Architectural Sciences

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May 2010

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CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE: 416-621-9621

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

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

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

FAX: 416 621-8694

www.oaa.on.ca
www.oacett.org

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

President's Message

OAAAS at the OAA Conference

The OAA Annual Conference will take place in Windsor from May 7-9. As it has done previously, OAAAS will have a table of information and we hope members attending the Conference will drop by to say hello.

The OAA Conference is an important chance for OAAAS to raise awareness among architects about our program. It's much easier to recruit new members when the architect who employs them understands our program and what it can do for the technologists. Better still if we can convince the architect that the program is in the collective interests of the profession.

The other activity taking place in Windsor is the OAA Admission Course. This year, 16 OAAAS members have registered to attend, a record number. The Course will have a special session for the future Licensed Technologists OAA during which they will hear from the registrars of OAA and OAAAS about the rules that apply specifically to them. It will be a chance for them to meet together and is an important next step in the development of our program.

David Mailing

B.Tech. (ARSC) M.Arch. OAA MRAIC

(Remember that the OAA Conference is an excellent opportunity to attend educational sessions about the latest developments in the profession. Architects often use the Conference to meet their Continuing Education requirements.)



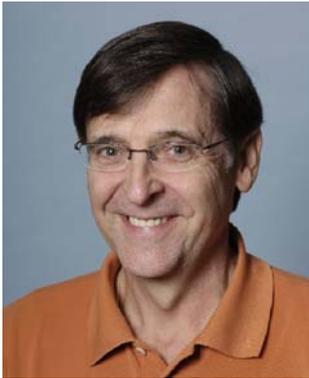
2010 OAA Conference

The Changing Face of Architecture

May 5-8, 2010

Caesars Windsor Hotel and Casino
Windsor, Ontario

Executive Director's Message



OAAAS Session of the OAA Admission Course

Thursday, May 6
7:00-8:30p.m.
at
Caesars Windsor Hotel
Jovis Room

In the past few months, the OAA has responded positively to several OAAAS requests, or otherwise has made program adjustments, which are beneficial to OAAAS members:

- As reported above by the president, there will be a special OAAAS session at the OAA Admission Course exclusively for future Licensed Technologists OAA.
- As part of the work experience requirement, all candidates for licensure must show they have knowledge of the current rules and regulations in the province. They demonstrate this by recording at least 940 hours of work, on Ontario projects, working for an OAA-licensed architect, in the three years immediately preceding submission of their application to OAA. The previous rule requiring these hours to be in designated categories has been amended and these hours can now be worked in any of the 15 work experience categories.
- The OAA has amended the Policy Statement to permit licence holders to use the title Licensed Technologist OAA or the short-form Lic.Tech.OAA. A change was requested by several members who find the long form challenging for business cards.

Thank you to all members who have facilitated an OAAAS Lunch and Learn session at their offices in the past couple of months. I enjoy meeting with technologists where they work. I am continuing to seek new marketing opportunities so if you would like me to visit your firm, please contact me: gneil@oacett.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Garry Neil', written over a white background.

Garry Neil
Executive Director|Registrar

Submission of Experience Record Books + Late Penalty Charge to take effect as of July 1, 2010

We invite our new members to take advantage of the opportunity to submit retroactive work experience hours that you accumulated prior to joining OAAAS. This offer is available to you within the first three months from the date you become an OAAAS member.

We are pleased to report that the number of members actively submitting their hours is excellent. But, active members who are a bit behind in submission of hours should note that, as of **July 1, 2010**, the Late Penalty Charge stipulated in the OAAAS Program Guide will become fully enforced.

For details, please visit the OAAAS Program Guide and / or the 2010 Fees Payable Document posted on the website.

OACETT A.Sc.T. Designation will no longer be awarded as of July 1

OAAAS members have been advised of an important change to OACETT rules which may affect them. If approved by OACETT members, beginning July 1, 2010, OACETT would award two titles: Certified Technician (C.Tech.) and Certified Engineering Technologist (C.E.T.). The OAAAS Board will consider this matter at its next meeting.

In emails from OACETT registration, OAAAS was advised of the following:

"OACETT will no longer be awarding the A.Sc.T. title. Applicants to OAAAS who would normally receive the A.Sc.T. will now receive the C.E.T. upon submission of an acceptable technology report (TR).

Although this is an additional requirement, it should not prove onerous for applicants. Graduates from nationally accredited architectural technology programs in Ontario ... are exempt from the TR as it is part of the curriculum.

Graduates from non accredited programs also have a TR requirement in order to graduate and these applicants can submit their college TR for OACETT to grade. If they do not have a TR they can submit a project that they have completed at work. In the latter two cases this may require additional "tweaking" to the TR to meet OACETT requirements."

The reason for the change was explained in an earlier email to OACETT members: "the rationale is largely to manage a proliferation of titles which is confusing to many, particularly employers."

According to the OACETT Assistant Registrar, the Ontario Colleges that are nationally accredited are Sheridan, Algonquin, Centennial and Niagara. Thus, graduates from the three-year architectural technology programs of those colleges will be exempt from the requirement to submit a Technology Report.

If you are an OACETT/OAAAS member who needs only to pass the Professional Practice Exam to qualify to become an Applied Science Technologist, you should know that your final opportunity to write the PPE before the new rules are scheduled to take effect is on May 29, 2010. To be certain of your status for the OAAAS program, you are strongly urged to act today to register for the PPE.

New Electronic Invoicing + Receipts System

OAAAS has implemented a new electronic mailing procedure for OAAAS invoices, receipts and communication with members.

All future invoices and receipts will be sent to you electronically as a PDF document. Hard copies of your documents are available upon request.

New Abbreviation: Lic.Tech.OAA

The OAA has amended the Policy Statement to permit licence holders to use the title Licensed Technologist OAA or the short-form Lic.Tech.OAA.

The change was requested by members who find the long form challenging for their business cards.

Most Recent Licensed Technologists OAA Members

Congratulations to fellow members who achieved Licensed Technologist OAA from October 2009 to April 2010:

Dragan Acimovic
Pietro Fuoco
Terry Ruszczak

Ryan Baker
Jeremiah Gammond
Yi (Jerry) Xu

Luke Boonstra
Daryl Little

Timothy Finch
Robert Prince

Meet the New Members of OAAAS

We would like to welcome the following members who have recently joined OAAAS:

Anna Christina Araneta
Saurabh Dhavale
Stacy Fleming
Mona Mousa
Xin Yue Yang

Sampath Bandaratilleke
Andrew Dietrich
Tomasz Goral
Ravi Nair

Matthew Barton
Paul Driedger
Kyle Heitner
Mitchell Sauder

Trent Collie
Zoran Dunjic
Hassan Khan
Salam Tappuni

MEMBER FEATURE

Olga Lucia Bejarano A.Sc.T., Lic. Tech. OAA.

In 2009, Olga Bejarano was the first woman to become a Licensed Technologist OAA. Olga graduated in 1983 from the Javeriana University, in her native Bogotá, with a Bachelor in Architecture. Like most new architecture graduates, her career began with preparing working drawings, details and construction site visits. She moved from Colombia to Toronto 12 years ago. Today, she leads a multidisciplinary team of professionals as the Project Manager in one of the most successful Toronto-based architectural firms, Petroff Partnership Architects. Her Canadian career began at Yolles Partnership Incorporated, also in Toronto.

We had the opportunity to speak with Olga about her OAAAS certification journey and her experience of establishing her career in Toronto.

What did it mean for you to achieve your certification as a Licensed Technologist OAA?

"It means a great deal to me personally and professionally to be recognized as a certified design professional by two significant professional organizations in Canada, OAA and OACETT. More importantly, I can show my clients that I possess the North American skills, knowledge and standards of practice established by the Ontario Association of Architects."

Why did you choose to pursue the Lic.Tech.OAA designation in 2006?

"Working in Canada's very demanding industry, I quickly realized that my biggest career challenges originated from the differences between the training and work I did in Colombia and the North American industry standards. I decided to pursue the OAA certification in order to gain the training and education I felt I needed on issues such as code and regulations, professional practice, and law and technical standards."

Member Feature Continued...

Reflections on the certification journey...

"Going through the OACETT and OAAAS certification process of establishing my education, accumulating 7200 hours of experience in targeted areas and writing the examination process has prepared me to respond successfully to more senior roles and challenging projects within my profession."

"Once I submitted the transcripts of my Colombian education and was accepted as a member, I found the logging of hours was not a big factor, because I have been working in the field and was exposed to all the required categories. As for the exams, you definitively have to be very well prepared, especially coming from another country like I did, since the education and training standards are not the same. This meant that there was a lot of information to learn and absorb. Despite this, I feel it was worth it."

How do you view the responsibility of Continuing Education?

"I have always approached my career with seriousness, commitment and dedication. I take great interest in my work and have a sincere desire to improve continually, and to be prepared for all the new challenges. As with any other career, there are constant changes in technology, trends, and industry standards. Any conscientious professional who wants to keep up to date and current has to commit to continuous learning."

What advice would you give to members who are currently re-establishing their career from another country?

"I strongly recommend that everyone who is re-establishing their career from another country pursue this certification, which I see as key to establishing yourself in the Canadian building industry and making progress through its ranks. The entire process is designed not only to get you prepared for the technical and field challenges in a new country, but also to make the connection between your previous education and experience and the demands of the industry in North America. These processes are complementary and it's the way to become a well-rounded professional."

Olga, our sincere congratulations on your achievements to date, and for the success you have achieved in Canada. I am sure most readers can appreciate it is a daunting task to re-establish one's career in a new homeland and the perseverance and commitment it commands.

Professional Background

Petroff Partnership Architects since April 2000.
Yolles Partnership Incorporated 1998-2000.
Tierra S.A, Bogotá, Colombia 1989-1998.
Melendez Melendez Arquitectos, Bogota, Colombia 1983-1989.

NEW Continuing Education OPPORTUNITIES

Members registered as an OAAAS Technologist or Licensed Technologist are reminded that you are required to complete specified continuing education requirements. As well as report both your CORE and Self-Directed learning activities on your ConEd transcript.

When reporting an educational activity on the OAA ConEd transcript, you should refer to the guide [How do I distinguish between CORE and Self-Directed learning?](#) To determine what opportunities are available for you to complete any outstanding Self-Directed or CORE requirements, please check the following links:

[Upcoming CORE Course Opportunities](#)

[Upcoming Self-Directed Course Opportunities](#)

If you have any questions about continuing education, please contact Ellen Savitsky at the OAA by e-mail ellens@oaa.on.ca.

Are there Co-op opportunities at your firm this summer?

As the recovery takes hold and the work of architectural firms gains momentum, you may be looking for some temporary staff support for the summer. Why don't you consider bringing co-op architectural technology students on board? The following colleges have co-op programs with senior students eager to gain practical experience. Everybody wins when you hire a co-op student. For information on Co-op programs at a specific college, click on the college name of interest.

[St. Clair College of Applied Arts & Technology](#) – Windsor ON

Dolores Jevsnik
Co-Operative Education Consultant
972-2727 Ext. 4630
djevsnik@stclaircollege.ca

Click here to view [Letter to Potential Employers](#)



[Fanshawe College - School of Building Technology](#) – London ON

Joe Teodoro, M.A.A.T.O.
Architectural Technology
Co-operative Education Consultant
Fanshawe College
School of Building Technology
Phone: 519-452-4430 ext. 4574

jteodoro@fanshawec.ca

Additional Ontario colleges offering Architectural Technology Co-op Programs:

COLLEGE

(Click on college name)

[Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology](#)
Hamilton ON

[Georgian College Centre for Co-operative Education / Internship and Career Services](#)
Barrie ON

[Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning- Hire a Co-op Student](#)
Brampton ON

[Humber College-Architectural Technology Co-op](#)
Toronto ON

CONTACT INFORMATION

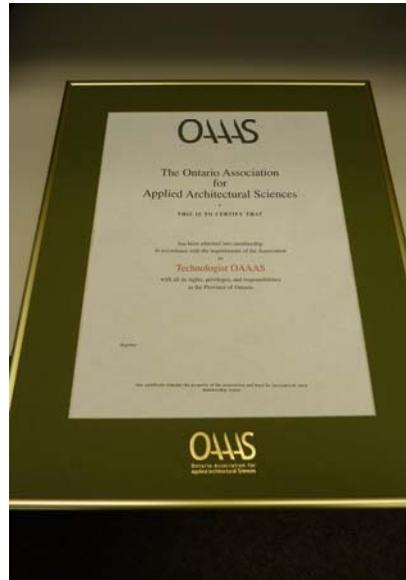
Colleen Hardy,
Employment Consultant
colleen.hardy@mohawkcollege.ca
905-575-2142

Tom St. John
Civil and Architectural Technologies
tstjohn@georgian.on.ca
705-728-1968 ext 5490 **OR**
cooperative@georgian.on.ca
705-728-1968 ext. 1340

Ken Snell
School of Applied Computer &
Engineering Science
ken.snell@sheridaninstitute.ca
905-845-9430 5047

www.humber.ca

CUSTOM OAAAS CERTIFICATE FRAMES HAVE ARRIVED



Thanks to the great suggestion by member, Ivan Desroches, we can now offer you an exclusive OAAAS certificate framing solution. Just imagine, showcasing your OAAAS certificates in a sleekly designed gold metal frame with an acid free olive green coloured mat featuring an embossed OAAAS logo. It will look great on your office wall!



For more information and to order your OAAAS certificate frame, please contact Rommy Rodriguez A at rrodriguez@oacett.org Or 416-621-9621

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.

