



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

The Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland
The Registration Body for Architects in Ireland



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Director's Report

"We don't know how long this crisis is going to last... When it is over, those who have invested in innovation will find themselves ahead of the pack".

- EU Commissioner, Jan Figel 2009.

Architect's earnings plummet from average of €65,000 in 2008 to €50,250 in 2010.

2010 was a difficult year for many professional architects and architectural technologists. Possibly in the history of the Institute there has never been such a cataclysmic fall in business for the profession that has seen practices, some quite old, some very new, fold while other colleagues have had to emigrate in search of work.

To add insult to the industry's injury a number of misconceptions have grown up as, due to no fault of our own, architects were lumped into the same pot as discredited developers, builders and

bankers. A perception has grown that architects did so well in the good years of the Celtic Tiger that they now have plenty of fat to ride out the current downturn. This is simply not the case.

According to an independent survey carried out by Mirza and Nacey, a UK market research company, of architectural earnings throughout the EU (and as can be seen from the table below) the average earnings for architects in 2007 – the last of the "good years" in Ireland were €62,000. That figure in 2010 is now €50,250.

This was equivalent to the income of mid ranking public servants, not those of high ranking bankers. Indeed a majority of



John Graby
Director

architects and architect technologists would have been more than happy with an income of €50,250 during the year under review. Architecture never was a highly paid profession and even the highest income shown in the research would not be sufficient to carry anybody through the current recession.

As a further example of a profession taking measures to stay active, according to the same Mirza and Nacey research, work from outside Ireland, as percentage of a practice's turnover has gone from just 5% in 2007 to 26.2% in 2010 for Irish architectural practices.

The country does not have "...too many buildings"

Another persistent perception during the exceptionally difficult year of 2010 was that

Average Earnings €'s

	2008	2010
Sole Principals	75,000	40,000
Partners/Directors	80,000	55,000
Private Practice Salaried	60,000	45,000
Freelance	N/A	23,500
Other Private	72,500	66,500
Local Authority/Government	70,000	72,000
Other Public	60,000	74,000
ALL	65,000	50,250

Ireland had built too much and that there was no need for any more building. This is simply not so. Economists who cared to take their heads out of their spreadsheets should have been aware of population increase, the deficiencies in education and health building and general infrastructure problems. In 2010 it was not a question of too much building but not enough vision, not enough forward planning.

Response to salary drop cost RIAI over €200,000

A decision was taken in 2009 to reduce annual charges, across all categories to 2003 levels. It was also decided to introduce a €60 unwaged and financial hardship rate. This has resulted in an income loss of over €200,000, which came from RIAI reserves, but was seen as necessary so as to assist the profession in the medium term.

In 2010 there were 342 architects and 56 architectural technologists who were in receipt of social protection payments and 239 architects and 32 technologists who received the reduced rate for reasons of financial hardship. The RIAI considered it particularly important that people should not lose their right to register or RIAI membership at this difficult time.

Registration – no progress on Ministerial appointees to boards

Despite the difficulties being experienced by architects, 120 new architects were admitted to the Register in 2010.

We hoped that 2010 would have been the first full year of the new architect Registration system but this was not to be. There was no progress whatsoever on the appointment of the Ministerial nominees for

the Professional Conduct Committee or of the Appeals Board and similarly no decision was made by the Minister for the Environment on the charges proposed for the RIAI registration activities.

No Financial Bonanza

The impact of this delay is that it has been extremely difficult to establish the real cost of Registration because the system was not running fully. There have been some claims that Registration provides some sort of financial bonanza for the RIAI; this is simply not the case. RIAI has invested over €600,000 in resources, staff training, systems etc monies which are not recoverable.

The reality is, as always, annual charges for Registration, as for other annual charges for other categories of members are substantially subsidised by RIAI support and business activities. The analysis provided to the Minister for the Environment, as required by the Building Control Act 2007, in September 2009 showed that the actual cost per architect to be on the Register, if an RIAI subsidy from other activities was not to be made available, was €780 per year not €490.

Building Control (Amendment Act) 2010 – Attorney General concurs with RIAI legal opinion

In July 2010 John O'Donoghue TD introduced a Private Members Bill amending the Building Control Act of 2007. The amendment proposed, in summary, that those not having listed qualifications, who were over 35 years of age and had provided architectural services for seven years or more, could submit a portfolio and have that assessed on a "quantitative" basis only.

There was no form of qualitative assessment, no reference to the Professional Qualifications Directive Article 46 provisions for the formation of an architect, and no specific assessment of the work other than the amount carried out.

The view of the RIAI was that the Amendment Bill was unnecessary as the existing legislation already provided for the registration of those who did not have formal qualifications. The procedures, as defined in the Act, and operated by the Independent Technical Assessment Board, were fair, accessible, structured and based on expert assessment of the professional competence and experience. The RIAI had concerns that the proposed Bill would:

- Undermine consumer confidence and protection in the profession
- Invalidate the existing Register for architects while undermining the validity and acceptability of all architectural qualifications in the State.
- Damage the excellent reputation of Irish architects.
- Discriminate against those who have worked for and invested in a qualification in architecture and a professional examination.
- Only serve those who were unwilling to have their knowledge, skill and competence assessed by an independent Government Statutory Body.

A series of information meetings on the proposed Bill was held around the country where both the Director and Assistant

Director gave presentations. The venues included Galway, Castlebar, Athlone, Dublin, Letterkenny, Waterford, Cork and Tralee.

Given the seriousness of the matter the RIAI commissioned a Counsel's Opinion on the proposed legislation which was received at the end of September 2010. The conclusion of Gerard Hogan SC was:

"A. Article 46 of the Directive sets out the education standards which architects who qualified in Ireland after August 1987 must attain. Article 49 provides for a derogation in the case of persons qualified before that date, even if their educational qualifications did not otherwise satisfy the requirements of Article 46.

B. If enacted, the 2010 Bill would, in effect, create a new category of persons entitled to be regarded as architects, even though they might not otherwise have satisfied the requirements of Article 46 and would not be in a position to do so, even though they did not hold themselves out as architects prior to August 1987.

C. But the PSQ Directive precludes – certainly by necessary implication – national legislation of this kind, since it sets out the requirements (pre and post August 1987) for the recognition and training of architects. Member States are not, in effect, free to create such a new category of persons, as, post August 1987, all Irish qualified architects must be in a position to satisfy the requirements of Article 46. As the 2010 Bill would allow Ireland to circumvent the requirements of Article 46 and the requirements of the Directive generally, in my view such a measure would plainly be unlawful as contrary to requirements of EU law."

The Opinion was provided to Government and ultimately reviewed by the Attorney General who concurred with the Opinion given. Those architects who engaged with TDs and Senators on the Bill deserve the thanks of all architects.

Workload

Work continued to decline during the year with the exception of some work in schools as well as small scale domestic.

The evident need for more school buildings led to engagement with the Department of Education and Science on issues such as procurement.

Developing Work Opportunities

For smaller build projects RIAI promotional resources went into improving work opportunities including the launch of a new "Architect Connect" service on the website backed by the substantial resources of Online Tradesmen where architects can make contact with clients for smaller scale projects.

More detail can be found in the Architecture Report section on the Simon Open Door and Ideal Homes initiatives; these helped to break down barriers between the consumers and architects and also to enable architects to follow up potential job leads.

Building a Better Ireland

The major focus of RIAI media statements and lobbying generally was the need for a plan for the future and an investment in the future. As the RIAI President, Paul Keogh, said:

"Planning is about vision: it is about asking ourselves what kind of Ireland do we want, for our children, and for our children's children?"

The need for vision and planning was given a particular focus by the launch, in June 2010, of the Construction Industry Council Manifesto "Building a Better Ireland". RIAI had a major role in drafting the Manifesto.

The Executive Summary put the priorities clearly -

- Prioritise investment in infrastructure to restore the construction sector to its optimum level of €18bn and 250,000 jobs in direct indirect employment (equivalent to 12% of 2008 GNP).
- Maintain the Public Capital Programme at a minimum of €5.5bn per annum over the period 2011 to 2016, and increase investment wherever possible and prioritise investment in infrastructure based on employment generating potential, both in the construction phase and long-term whole-life benefits to society and the economy.
- Utilise innovative mechanisms to finance the delivery of infrastructure, including off-balance sheet funding such as the CIC proposed infrastructure bond and use the current recession in construction to deliver first class public infrastructure and high quality living environments at excellent value to the Exchequer.
- Adopt an integrated approach to planning and infrastructure delivery through an urgent review of both the National Development Plan and the National Spatial Strategy.



- Ensure that revenue raised through alternative funding mechanisms, is additional to the Public Capital Programme. Reinstate rolling five-year capital investment envelopes to allow government departments plan and deliver projects effectively.
- Review planning and public procurement procedures to reduce tendering costs and effect efficiencies in delivering infrastructure.
- Retain vital skills in Ireland, save job losses in construction and the wider economy, and stimulate growth to lead Ireland from recession to recovery in 2011.

The section of the Report on education and skills was particularly relevant to planning for the future:

“Ireland is facing a crisis in the school building programme: an urgent increase in public capital investment is required, not only for new construction but also to bring the existing stock up to current educational and environmental standards”.

The priorities identified were:

- Audit primary and secondary schools nationally and identify deficiencies in terms of education best practice, current statutory regulations and building energy rating.
- Implement a National School Building Plan to upgrade the entire education estate to 21st century standards by 2015.

- Prioritise public capital investment to deliver OECD standards for primary and secondary school infrastructure.
- Explore alternative procurement arrangements to support delivery of necessary investment in new school infrastructure to meet 2015 and 2020 projected demand.
- Review design briefs vis-à-vis current international best practice and emerging standards, including the role of school buildings in the community.
- Review building space standards and construction budgets to emphasise long life and design quality, and to deliver whole-life cost efficiencies to the exchequer.

The Manifesto

RIAI made direct contact with Government, Members of the Oireachtas etc. and asked members to carry out similar lobbying and provided a standard letter to TDs and Senators. From the responses received it did seem that RIAI Members were not used to lobbying and needed further advice and guidance. Despite focused Industry lobbying there was no reaction from Government apparently mesmerised by the financial crisis.

PPP

The three elements that caused significant problems in 2010 were

- Procurement
- Planning
- Payments

Procurement – small and medium enterprises could not get market access

The decline in workload exposed more starkly and clearly than ever the procurement quagmire. A major part of the RIAI's work was representations to local authorities and particularly the Department of Finance on inconsistent, exclusionary and expensive procurement procedures. The only certainty in the system was that small and medium enterprises could not get access to the market because of abnormally high thresholds, unrealistic Professional Indemnity cover, staffing requirements, previous experience of identical projects and the preparation of complex and costly repeat submissions.

After sustained lobbying by the RIAI and other professional industry bodies it was accepted by the Department of Finance that problems were being caused by the procurement system.

In August the Department of Finance issued a circular 10/10 which essentially set out a process of self-declaration i.e. information would not be required at the initial stages but would be required on request. There was also a clear reminder that

"contracting authorities are strongly reminded that the levels they set for suitability criteria (especially in relation to a potential tenderer's turnover level) must be both justifiable and proportionate to the needs of the contract"

Despite RIAI lobbying success some agencies persisted with 'unrealistic' requirements

The issue of Circular 10/10 did not prevent some procuring agencies from continuing to ask for a disproportionate number of staff, unnecessary PI and experience requirements and also did not prevent the continuing practice of requesting substantial information at the initial stages. There were complaints about non-compliance with Circular 10/10 and similar issues were a major part of RIAI workload .

Planning – obsessive focus on minutiae and disregard for planning regulations and legislation

There was an expectation that problems with the administration of the planning system might ease with the drop in workload, but from reports from architects

and technologists the reverse appeared to be the case. There was an almost obsessive focus on minutiae and often complete disregard for planning regulations and legislation. A particular problem was that of Disability Access Certificates (DAC). Such projects as were moving forward and in some cases buildings of national importance, were being delayed by unreasonable, and as it has emerged, requirements not related to Building Regulations. The RIAI was involved in considerable correspondence with local authorities on this matter and tried to achieve some degree of rationality. J Miller represented the RIAI on local Government Management Services Committee, looking at systems for DAC applications.

Payment – State bodies fail to follow requirements of prompt payment legislation

Getting paid for work done remained a problem. This was by no means limited to the private sector with some Government Departments, local authorities and agencies being particularly tardy in payments and, in effect, failing to follow the requirements of the prompt payment legislation.

Professional support – Possibly most important RIAI Executive role in 2010 was support for members' difficulties, personal and professional.

The report includes a table of the various arenas in which the RIAI provides a voice for architects at a National and International level, as well as a further table of the range of RIAI Committees, Workgroups etc which gives some insight into the range of work being undertaken.

Possibly the most important role that the RIAI Executive had in 2010 was support for architects, technologists and other members in real difficulties, both personal and professional. Direct personal and professional support was provided and many architects and architectural technologists benefited from this advice over the year.

Document Sales – decline continued

Document sales continued to decline with very slow sales for Building contracts, Opinions on Compliance etc with hardly any work starting and needing contract forms or completing and needing Opinions on Compliance.

Skills – good take up of courses

Sustainable Domestic Refurbishment Course attracted significant support and strengthened the position of architects and architectural technologists in this market. During the year preparations were made for a sustainable certification/accreditation design system to be rolled out into 2011.

Government Policy on Architecture

The RIAI participated actively in the implementation of the Government Policy on Architecture and received part funding for three initiatives – all aimed at boosting architectural awareness and activity:

- 3 twenty 10
- The Annual Review
- Architectural Tours

Architectural Competitions

The Architectural Competitions are detailed in the Architecture section of the report and these included:

- Aoibhneas Children's Centre Architectural Design Competition for Aoibhneas Women and Children's Refuge, Coolock
- Q5 Waltrovka, Prague Architectural Competition for Red Group
- 3Twenty10 Research Competition

International – Architects Council of Europe involvement vital

Counsel's Opinion provided by Gerard Hogan on the John O'Donoghue Amendment and the implications of the Professional Qualifications Directive underlined the importance of the RIAI being aware or involved in the Architects Council of Europe (ACE) activities at EU level.

RIAI members work with ACE on a range of European issues, including the Professional Qualifications Directive, the Services Directive, Mobile Sites Directive, Cost Information System issues, Legal Competition issues, Urban issues, Sustainability and Professional Standards.

Looking forward – financial reserves allow Institute survival over number of years

It is difficult for architects/technologists and RIAI members to be optimistic about the future but there is no doubt that the demographic demand, if coupled to any easing of the overall financial position, should lead to more architectural services being required.

The RIAI does have a level of reserves which would enable the Institute to survive a number of difficult years and continue to administer the Register and to provide support services and promote architecture. A combination of Council, substantial voluntary input, as can be seen from the Committee list, and a loyal, committed and hardworking staff has helped the Institute to meet the challenges of 2010 and into the future.

Thank you for taking the time to read this Report which I hope will give you an overview of the RIAI's activity.

Your views are always welcome: contact us at info@riai.ie.

A Voice for Architects

RIAI members provided the voice of architects in a diverse range of national, EU and international bodies as listed:

Architecture, Urbanism and Design	Industry and Professional
Irish Architecture Foundation	Construction Industry Council
Irish Architectural Archive	Construction Advisory Committee
Design Ireland	Construction Safety Partnership
DEHLG/RIAI Sustainable Communities and Housing Committee	Construction Standards Committee
Urban Forum	Irish Agreement Board
Government Policy on Architecture	Inter-Professional Group
Regional Groups	Liaison Committee of the Construction Industry
London Group Eastern Region	Local Government Management Services Board
Limerick Forum Dublin Forum	National Construction and Demolition Waste Council
Southern Region Western Region	National Disease Surveillance Centre
EU	Timber Consultative Committee
Architects Council of Europe Work Groups	Construction Industry Technology Alliance
Cost Information Systems	Building Regulations Advisory Board
Environment and Sustainable Architecture	International
Procurement	International Union of Architects (UIA)
SHW Research	Architecture for All
Professional Experience	Accessibility
Trade in Services	Professional Practice
European Forum for Architectural Policies	Architecture sans Frontiers
European Network of Architectural Competent Authorities	International Council for Monuments and Sites

Architecture & Promotion

Promoting Architecture

The importance of high quality architecture in delivering a vibrant and successful society is well recognised by Architects and Architectural Technologists. The RIAI executive and committees invest significant resources and time to promote these messages to all of the stakeholders – the public, government, clients and the media.

These initiatives and campaigns are extremely important to assist the RIAI create an environment where good architecture can happen and the RIAI acknowledges the contribution of many members who give considerable time to the committees, juries and media campaigns. The RIAI works to engage with the media to promote the messages and in 2010 the market value of the RIAI's media coverage was in excess of €750,000.

Below are details of a number of initiatives, projects and campaigns run in 2010.

The RIAI Irish Architecture Awards 2010

The Awards were presented in Farnleigh, Dublin on Monday, 21 June 2010. Approximately 150 people attended the ceremony, which was hosted by Miriam O'Callaghan. The Minister of State for Planning, Ciaran Cuffe and the RIAI President, Paul Keogh, presented the Awards. Claire McGrath, Chairman of the OPW, presented the Accessibility Award which is sponsored by the OPW.

The 2010 Awards achieved a record amount of media coverage. RTE partnered the RIAI in the Public Choice Award which was launched on RTE Radio 1's Morning Ireland programme and received almost 10,000 votes. The media coverage alone was valued at over €150,000.

Events

Simon Open Door

The 6th Annual Simon Open Door event took place on Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 April 2010. The event was expanded into a full weekend which proved to be a huge success – 955 meetings were held between architects and clients and over €50,000 was raised for the Simon Communities of Ireland. A very successful media campaign was run to promote the event and coverage was achieved in national and regional media including:

- Over 80 additional articles and radio slots in national and local media.



Architect Peter O'Dwyer in consultation at the RIAI with the Finnegan family from Clontarf.



Kathryn Meghen
Assistant Director

Ideal Homes

As part of the RIAI's outreach initiative to engage with the public, to break down perceived barriers and to explain the scope of work that architects do the RIAI took exhibition stands at the Ideal Home Shows in both Cork and Dublin during 2010.

RDS, Dublin, 16–18 April 2010

300 free consultations were held over the three days providing members of the public an opportunity to meet with an architect for a 30-minute consultation. Forty architects gave their time for free and the feedback from the architects involved, the show organisers and the public was positive.

2010 ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS		
The Criminal Courts of Justice	Best Accessible Project & Public Choice	Henry J Lyons Architects
St. Patrick's Place	Best Sustainable Project	Scott Tallon Walker Architects
Architects Studio at 51–54 Pearse Street	Best Commercial / Retail Building	Henry J. Lyons Architects
Rush Library	Best Conservation / Restoration Project	McCullough Mulvin Architects
VISUAL – Centre for Contemporary Art & The George Bernard Shaw Theatre	Best Cultural Building	Terry Pawson Architects
Engineering and Informatics Building, Athlone Institute of Technology	Best Educational Building	McCullough Mulvin Architects
Alzheimer's Respite Centre	Best Health & Leisure	Niall McLaughlin Architects
107 Ringsend Park	Best House Extension	Boyd Cody Architects
House 1 + House 2	Best House	Taka Architects
Social and Affordable Residential Development Santry Demense Fingal	Best Housing	DTA Architects
4 Mastmaker Road	Overseas Award	Brady Mallalieu Architects
Civic Precinct – Courthouse, Local Area Office and Library, Kilmallock, Co Limerick	Best Public Building	ABK Architects
Father Collins Park	Best Public Space	MCO Projects / ArArq Ireland

Arc Event Centre, Cork, 1–3 October 2010

Nearly 150 free consultations were held over these three days providing members of the public in the southern region an opportunity to meet with an architect for a 30-minute consultation. Twenty-five architects gave their time for free. Though the show itself was not very well attended the RIAI stand was busy throughout.

RDS, Dublin, 22–25 October 2010

36 RIAI Members gave advice at the RIAI Extension Advice Clinic to 333 potential clients over the October bank holiday



weekend, showing the public the benefits of good design and displaying members' talents.

Slow Architecture

The RIAI sponsored the Slow Architecture initiative which looked at the idea of 'slow architecture' in Ireland today and seeks to establish a set of principles towards its promotion.

A specially fitted-out canal boat was used for the exhibition that stopped at a number of venues along the route of the Grand Canal from Belmont, Co. Offaly to the Grand Canal Basin in Dublin. The exhibition was aimed at engaging the public in discussion about architecture and its delivery in an unusual setting in unusual places. The exhibition was very successful and is to be repeated in 2011.

Annual Conference

The Annual Conference was held in Westport from 2–4 October 2010 and 140 delegates attended over the three days. The format, consisting of presentations followed by panel discussions and delegate contribution was very well received. 30 Students representing the five architectural colleges participated in a three day workshop on the theme of the '3Twenty10' competition and presented their ideas to the conference on the Monday afternoon. The conference closed on the Tuesday afternoon with presentations by the 20 shortlisted entries for the '3Twenty10' competition.

The James Gandon Medal

In 2010 the RIAI initiated a new award for a life time achievement in the field of architecture. The Award which is to be

presented biennially is to recognise the contribution made by an individual architect to the profession. The inaugural recipient was Dr Ronnie Tallon and the medal was presented by the Minister for Arts and Culture Mary Hanafin TD. Citations on Dr Tallon's contribution to the profession and his work were given by Shane O'Toole, Michael Warren and Michael Colgan of the Gate Theatre.

Design Week 2010, 1–5 November

To coincide with Design Week five public lectures were held at the RIAI



- McCullough Mulvin Architects – lecture on Rush Library and the Engineering and Informatics Building, Athlone IT
- Boyd Cody Architects – lecture on the extension to 107 Ringsend Park, Dublin 4
- Taka Architects – lecture on House 1 and House 2
- Henry J Lyons Architects – lecture on Criminal Courts of Justice and Architects' Studio at 51–54 Pearse Street



- Terry Pawson Architects -lecture on VISUAL – Centre for Contemporary Art & The George Bernard Shaw Theatre

Publications

Irish Architecture Review the first Annual Architecture Review was published in 2010; as a survey of the best of Irish architecture in Ireland and around the world over the past year or so.



Twenty eight buildings are were published including:

- The Wexford Opera House
- Thomond Park and Croke Park stadia
- Libraries in Cork, Rush and Laois
- Housing
- A Garda station
- Courthouses

- Parks
- An artist's studio
- A theatre and gallery in Carlow
- Local government buildings in Laois
- Hotels
- Private houses

The publication is a central part of the RIAI's work to improve and promote the profile of Irish architects work overseas.

House Magazine: The RIAI published one issue of House magazine in 2010; the high quality magazine is the RIAI's only public focused magazine articulating, promoting and highlighting the work of architects in the domestic sector. The magazine is sold through all major newspapers.

Architecture Ireland: This continues to be Ireland's premier architectural magazine and is used to promote the work of registered architects and to generate debate and discussion on the issues affecting the profession. The magazine is being supported financially by the RIAI as the decline in the construction industry has significantly impacted on advertising revenue.

The magazine won the Publications Design Award 2010 from the Institute of Designers of Ireland.

RIAI Competitions 2010

The RIAI again partnered with a number of client bodies to administer and promote architectural competitions. Competitions continue to be an important part of the RIAI's work in promoting quality in architecture to clients and the public and provide an excellent opportunity for new practices.

The following competitions were completed in 2010:

Aoibhneas Children's Centre Architectural Design Competition for Aoibhneas Women and Children's Refuge, Coolock

Winner

Burke Culligan Deegan Architects

Shortlist

Clancy Moore Architects

Ignacio Vidal / Victor Pujol Architects

Q5 Waltrovka, Prague Architectural Competition for Red Group

Winners

Shay Cleary Architects

DFCN architecture

Andrej Bartko

3Twenty10 Research Competition

Winners

Jeff Bolhuis, Miriam Delaney, Laurence

Lord – Re-Mapping the Midlands

Helena McElmeel – Rebound

Bláithín Quinn, Paul Quinn – TransColonia

European 10

European aims to give a platform to young European architects to develop and promote their ideas and to give cities and developers innovative solutions to architecture and urban design challenges. For the second time the RIAI managed Ireland's involvement in the European competition via two sites in Ballymun, Dublin and Ballyburke, Galway.

The results of European 10 were announced on 18 January 2010.

Dublin Winner

Ross Lambie (UK)

Dublin Runners-up

Peter Carroll, Caomhán Murphy, Joan McElligott, Stephen Mulhall, Suzy O'Leary, Sinéad O'Shaughnessy

Galway Winner

Conor Sreenan

Galway Runner-up

Donal Colfer

Converging Territories – EFAP

Converging Territories is a pilot-project for architects' mobility in Europe. In the framework of a residence, participants develop a proposal linked to a specific territorial or spatial situation, located in one of the three cities involved: Dublin, Paris and Prague.

The Dublin Project was 'Shadowland' and the participants chosen for 2010 were Wish Architects (France).

**International
Irish Architecture Brand abroad**

A survey by the Architects Council of Europe showed that 26% of Irish Architectural Practices' work in 2010 came from abroad; this is the highest percentage of export generated work in Europe.

The RIAI has been working with Enterprise Ireland for a number of years to train architects in the business skills necessary for exporting services and developing international business channels. In November 2010 the RIAI signed a contract to carry out research, funded by Enterprise Ireland, into the development of the brand

of Irish Architecture abroad – the first phase is to investigate the work being done in the Netherlands, Finland and Denmark, three countries with similar architectural practice structure and demographic profiles to Ireland. The findings of the research, which will be completed in mid-2011, will be used to inform the future work of the RIAI in creating an identity for Irish Architecture internationally.

Education

The Board of Architectural Education exercises responsibility for all educational matters and for assessment of applicants for RIAI membership. The voluntary input of RIAI members, in terms of time, quality and intensity to the BAE, examinations, visiting boards and other educational activities is enormously valuable. Without it the Institute could not provide the services and support that it does to members and potential members alike.

Board of Architectural Education

The Board of Architectural Education held seven Ordinary meetings and one Special meeting in 2010.

New Members Admitted

During 2010 the RIAI admitted:

- 84 new applicants
- 88 members
- 8 Architectural Graduate members
- 10 Architectural Technologist members

Professional Practice Examination

In the 2009/2010 cycle 105 candidates sat one or more stages of the RIAI Examination in Professional Practice. Of 74 undertaking the final stage 49 were successful.

Briefing sessions for Examination Candidates and their Mentors and advisory

sessions for final year students on examination and registration requirements, practical experience and career planning, were delivered. The Repeat Programme which was started in 2009 for candidates who had failed their Case Study and Oral examination by a narrow margin proved successful again with six out of seven eligible candidates passing via this process.

Schools of Architecture – Nine Visits

RIAI Visiting Boards carried out nine accreditation visits during the year.

- RIAI Accreditation of the Bachelor of Architecture Degree in DIT, WIT, UL CCAE and CESUGA.
- Post Graduate Diploma in Professional Practice at University College Dublin and the Register Admission Examination conducted by ARAE Ltd. was granted full Approval.
- Architectural Technologist courses in LYIT and GMIT were given provisional approval.
- Interim review of other programmes continued during the year.

Travelling Scholarship 2010

The theme for the 2010 Travelling Scholarship was 'Building in the Landscape'.

There was one Winner, two people were



Ann McNicholl
Education Director

Highly Commended and eleven others selected for exhibition.



Registration

The education division continued to contribute to the development and implementation of the RIAI admission procedures under the Building Control Act 2007 and *Directive 2005/36/EC on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications*. Evaluation of non-EU qualifications in architecture and the assessment of candidates seeking exemption from the examination in professional practice remains its responsibility.

Conservation Accreditation

The RIAI Conservation Accreditation System was re-evaluated and some modifications in the timing of required experience introduced before launch of a call for applications for Grades I and II.

In the 2009/2010 cycle, 31 members applied for Grade I and Grade II conservation accreditation. The RIAI Conservation Accreditation Board examined these applications and assessed 18 as being eligible for Grade I or II accreditation. The Conservation Appeal Board then assessed 7 appellants of which one was successful.

Application fees were reduced to 2006 levels.

CPD

2010 saw the end of the first cycle of mandatory CPD. The first CPD cycle provided useful feedback from members as well as practical experience of the logistical issues for RIAI administration. As a result of this feedback the CPD policy was revised in December 2010 and substantial changes made including the expansion of the range of activities that can be counted as structured CPD.

RIAI CPD communications throughout 2010 continued to note that learning activities need not have to be provided, approved or accredited by the RIAI in order for the activity to count as CPD.

CPD *E-Bulletins* Nos. 65 to 74 were issued to all members and registered RIAI practices.

'CPD Engage'

RIAI CPD Engage came into its own in 2010 providing members with access to a range of CPD. The system provides details of upcoming courses provided by the RIAI and other providers. It provides links to free and low-cost online structured CPD and provides links to useful documentation on a wide range of subject matters. CPD Engage allows member to plan, find, undertake, record and reflect on their CPD activities regardless of geographic location or time of day.

Further free 'CPD Engage Information and Training' sessions were delivered in Letterkenny and Cork in early January 2010. An on-line CPD Engage training module and a CPD Engage User Manual were made available to members to provide further information on the system and RIAI CPD staff members provided telephone support to members who had queries about CPD Policy and CPD Engage.

RIAI Courses

CPD delivery increased again, with some courses being repeated in different locations (Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick and Letterkenny) and in-house in RIAI member practices. In 2010 these included:

- Designing Low-Energy Domestic Refurbs
- Project Supervisor for the Design Process
- Safety By Design
- BS 9999: What's New?
- Disability Access Certificates
- Urban Design Master Class Series
- RIAI/EI Mediation & Dispute Resolution Breakfast Seminar
- Landscape Character Assessment Training Course by Heritage Council in association with the RIAI and various professional bodies
- Migration Information Evening
- Financial Breakfast Seminar- Survival Is The New Success
- Independent Living and Design for our Ageing Population

Free and Low-Cost CPD

The prices of RIAI courses were further reduced across the board and unwaged members were alerted to FAS funding. The RIAI 'CPD Lottery' continued to offer one free place to an unemployed member and one place at a fifty per cent discount to a member experiencing financial hardship on each RIAI CPD course held in 2010. Access for members to free or low-cost CPD was given priority in RIAI CPD bulletins and the over 50 hours of free online CPD activities were listed on CPD Engage.



RIAI CPD Network

More companies and presentations were added to the 'RIAI CPD Network'. RIAI Regional Representatives supported local practices in arranging group sessions for presentation on topics of particular interest.

RIAI CPD Links

In 2010 RIAI CPD Links, a new service designed to provide RIAI members with better information on the range of CPD offered by other educational, professional and training organisations was launched.

Practice

Little or no projects commissioned despite below cost tendering

Forecasts of an upturn in the construction sector commencing in 2010 proved to be optimistic. The banking crisis, the state of the country's finances and a perceived alignment of construction with developers by politicians ensured that works were kept to a minimum. Public commissions diminished at an even more alarming rate than in 2009 and such commissions, other than for the design and construction of schools, were rare, despite tenders at or below cost. Similarly in the private sector there were very few commissions other than domestic work, domestic refurbishment and retrofitting to reduce energy costs.

A trend, common to all recessions in the construction industry, was where the unwaged or unemployed form new architectural practices, has reoccurred. Some of the largest practices in the state were formed in previous recessions.

Service to the RIAI Membership

A recession can theoretically reduce the RIAI work load, however the reverse was the case. Problems tend to more acute in a recession as a number of factors relating to procedures and decision making need careful consideration.

Contractual difficulties featured prominently in requests for advice, in particular relating to interim certification, over certification,

non-payment of certificates, practical completion, disputed defects lists, client interference, cost overrun, contract time overrun, and application of liquidated and ascertained damages.

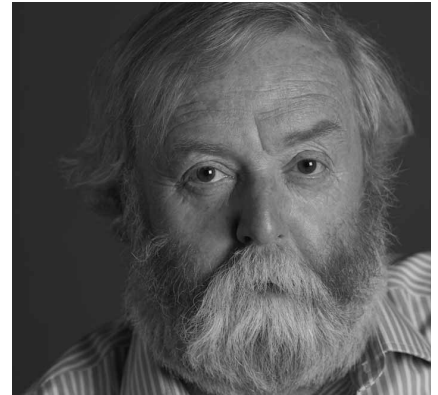
Advice was frequently sought on planning and building regulations, appropriate use of building contracts and warranties, the vetting of letters to clients, clients' legal advisors, and contractors.

RIAI advice was given on obtaining Professional Indemnity Insurance, insurance levels, notifications, wording of bespoke conditions of engagement and warranties and risk management based on analysis of current claim trends. Legal advice was allowed on a range of issues.

By seeking early advice from the RIAI, many difficulties could be resolved, or a procedure established to mitigate risks of serious contractual difficulties with clients, local authorities and building contracts.

Practice Director's Service to Members' Clients – early intervention avoids complaints

Confidential advice is frequently sought by clients regarding difficulties they have with their architect; normally an inexperienced client seeking advice on the detail of an agreement with an architect, contractual obligations under the building contract and general procedures during the construction stage. Generally clients are satisfied when issues are discussed confidentially with



Joe Miller
Practice Director

the RIAI Director and Practice Director and this service can be regarded as a form of mediation that is greatly appreciated by clients.

Procurement of Consultancy Services for State Projects – misuse of process persists

The issue by the Department of Finance of Circular 10/10 should have paved the way for greater access for SMEs to the public procurement process. Circular 10/10 seeks to reduce the submission of unnecessary paperwork to establish prequalification. Despite this circular it has been necessary for the RIAI to write to numerous procuring agencies of the State advising them that they are in breach of the circular.

It is too early to ascertain if the market has been opened up by Circular 10/10 as the procurement process is still evolving and misuse of the prequalification process persists.

Building Regulations – interpretation leads to confusion and scandalous waste of resources

The review by the Department of the Environment of the Building Regulations continues. The desire to meet deadlines set by Minister Gormley produced Disability Access Certificate (DAC) regulations that needed more consideration with greater industry consultation before release. Interpretation of the DAC regulations by some local authorities has led to considerable confusion and a scandalous waste of resources.

Disability Access Certificates – One Local Authority causes considerable difficulties

The 1st January 2010 was the commencement date for DAC application. There was considerable correspondence with the DoE/H/LG seeking clarification and interpretations of DAC Regulations, both by the RIAI, individual members and practices. The RIAI participated in the Local Government Management Services Board committee dealing with guidance on what constitutes a DAC application, the documentation and interpretation of the regulations. The final report is likely to be available in 2011.

The Building Control Department of one Local Authority has caused considerable difficulties by their interpretation of the regulations and by applying the draft Part M of the building regulations.

New and Existing Building Contracts – considerable administrative difficulties for practices

RIAI practices experienced similar difficulties encountered in 2009 with main contractor, domestic sub-contractor, nominated sub-contractors and suppliers that are experiencing trading difficulties. These cause building programme uncertainty, late delivery of materials, unpaid wages to tradesmen and sub-contractors and eventually can result in receivership or liquidations.

Whereas some practitioners would have encountered these problems during previous recessions, for some this was their first experience of them. This caused considerable contract administrative difficulties dealing with the determining of contracts and the appointment of other contractors to complete projects. The prequalifying of contractors and suppliers no longer had the certainty it previously had, because of the increased number of receiverships and liquidations of some of the most established contractors.

The diversity and seriousness of these problems led to increasing demands for RIAI support and advice. Direct advice was supplemented by our external architect advisor who is a specialist in contract administration and the legal duties of architects

Client/ Architect Agreements

In 2010 the preferred option for both the client and architect for fee agreements, together with a fixed service, was a lump sum fee. This gave cost certainty to clients, because of the exceptionally low tender

prices, often well below prudent cost plans. Unusually low tenders are a cause for concern as they may lead to liquidation or receivership during the building programme.

The Practice Committee

The Chairman for 2010, Eoin Ó Móráin, proposed changes to the structure of the Practice Committee in order to improve efficiency and have more defined outcomes with a quicker response to current practice issues. The Practice Committee now comprises of 9 sub-committees each with their list of specific tasks and deadlines.

- Sub-Committee A: Planning.
- Sub-Committee B: Building Regulations.
- Sub-Committee C: Contracts, Certification and Dispute Resolution.
- Sub-Committee D: the Good Practice Guide.
- Sub-Committee E: Communications with the Membership.
- Sub-Committee F: Cost Information Systems.
- Sub-Committee G: RIAI Agreements and Documentation.
- Sub-Committee H: Procurement.
- Sub-Committee I: Building Information Modelling.

Topics addressed during 2010 include:

- Declarations of Identity and the Land Registry
- The Planning and Development (Amendments) Bill 2009
- Liaison Committee Guidance Notes on Health and Safety
- Disability Access Certificate application difficulties
- Review of RIAI Forms of Building Contracts

- Generic response to Development Plans
- The Liaison Committee private form of contract and wish lists
- The RIAI Good Practice Guide 5th Edition online
- Sustainability Accreditation
- RIAI Domestic Resources Survey
- RIAI Sustainability Survey
- Fire Safety Applications
- PSDP obligations on vacant or abandoned sites
- Jointly and Severally Liabilities and GCCC building contracts
- Professional Indemnity Insurance claims and the RIAI Client/Architect agreements.
- Cost Guidelines for Domestic Projects
- Building Construction Warranties
- Possible up-dating the RIAI Architects Opinion on Compliance, relating to Multi Unit Developments (MUDs) and Strengthening System 2
- Response to DCC Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs) paper (STF).
- Guidelines prepared by Local Government Management Services Board and DACs.
- Building Information Modelling
- Articles of Agreement revised to cover VAT, insurance exclusions, discounts
- Submissions on Draft Building Regulations
- Informative case study on draft Part L on domestic dwellings
- Practice Committee presentation to RIAI Council re Practice survival in the future
- Draft Client /Architect Agreement for restoration work
- The Time and Resources survey on Primary and Secondary schools

50 additional information up-dated and revised papers published on RIAI web site:

- Sustainable Urban Drainage (SEDs)
- (Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs)
- Commissioners for Oaths
- Insulated Walls- Emerging Problems; Cautionary Note on Declarations of Identity
- Dispute Resolution under Yellow/Blue Forms
- TGD F –Ventilation
- Sustainable Design Tools
- Building Regs and New Fire Certs
- Requirements for DACs
- Main Contractor in Liquidation –GDLA
- Employer in Financial Difficulties
- Small Practice On-Line Insurance Tool
- Interim Certs for Nominated Sub-Contractors
- Changes in Vat September 2008
- Effective Debt Management Collection
- S.I. 235 on Planning 2008
- SEAI DEAP Software
- Planning Flood Risk
- Liquidations
- Direct Payment to Nominated Sub-Contractors
- Domestic Property Reports
- CIF Sub-Contract Forms
- Safety Toolkit
- Variation 21 of DCC Dev. Plan
- New SHW Pack
- SHW Briefing Notes 1- 2; SHW 2007
- Planning Permission Reminder
- Health and Safety Procedures – 2006 Regs.
- Guidance Notes on Articles of Agreement
- SHW 2006- Working at Heights
- Building Regs. Amendments 1997- 2006
- Building Control Bill
- Digital Builder Information

- Digital Issue Drawings
- Law Society – On – Line Opinions
- Building Bye-Laws
- Conditions of Engagement and Collateral Warranties
- Collateral Warranties for Professional Services
- Invalidations
- FAAC
- Building Regs. –Winders
- Opinion on Compliance when not the Architect
- Radon
- RIAI Code of Conduct
- SHW Construction Regs. – 2004
- New Health and Safety Bill
- Loft Conversions
- Advertising Code
- Commencement Notices

The Practice Division within the RIAI is supported by the members without whose assistance the Practice Committee, the Accessibility Task Force, the Housing Committee, the Historic Building Committee and the Sustainability Task Force could not function so successfully.

The Practice Committee Consulted with Outside Bodies including:

- Law Society of Ireland
- Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
- Department of Education and Skills
- Department of Finance
- Liaison Committee
- National Consumers Agency on Multi Unit Developments (MUDs)
- Ordnance Survey and Digital Mapping Difficulties
- The Construction Industry Council
- Engineers Ireland

- The Irish Green Building Council
- Building Regulations Advisory Board (BRAB)

RIAI Submissions on Consultation Documents

- Submission on Green Procurement 2010 (RIAI Sustainability Task Force (STF)).
- Submission on the Draft National Renewable Energy Action Plan (RIAI STF).
- Submission on the South Dublin County Council Draft Development Plan 2011- 2017 (RIAI Housing).
- Submission on the Draft Dublin City Council Development Plan 2011- 2017 (RIAI Housing – STF).
- Submission on the Draft Fingal County Council Development Plan 2011- 2017 (RIAI Housing- STF).
- Submission on the Draft Building Regulations Part L.

RIAI Practice Matters

- RIAI School Survey
- RIAI Opinions on Compliance
- Review and Updating of RIAI Practice Notes and Information Papers
- Review of and contributions to the RIAI Good Practice Guide
- RIAI Sustainability Accreditation
- The Business of Architecture

Communications

Communications with the RIAI Membership was conducted by email with monthly Practice, Members and CPD bulletins, which covered the latest and most salient information available to the RIAI.

Admissions

Following the launch of the register in November 2009, the Admissions Division saw a shift in focus from intensive preparation for the launch of the register to providing information to prospective candidates, handling enquiries and processing applications for admission. Technical Assessment, having also been launched at the end of 2009, was a major focus and involved briefing sessions, Board preparations and assessor recruitment as well as the provision of information on a one to one basis to those who made enquiries. There were further refinements to admission systems and adjustments to regulations to ensure compliance with EU Directive 2005/36/EC. The drafting and passing of Rules in accordance with Section 61 of the Act progressed with the establishment of rules relating to the Conduct of Boards, including confidentiality.

Admissions

In 2010 171 applicants were deemed eligible for membership and/or registration. Of these, 142 were deemed eligible for architect membership and registration, 12 were deemed eligible for architectural graduate membership and 16 were deemed eligible for architectural technologist membership.

Of those considered eligible for architect membership, the breakdown of the Routes pursued were as per the table below.

Three of those deemed eligible for recognition as an architect opted to be included on the register only.

Admissions Board

One member of the Admissions Board resigned in 2010. The Minister was advised without delay that the Board, while able to continue to function (Section 71(7)) had a



Margaret Hynds O'Flanagan
Admissions Director

vacancy arising from the resignation of a Ministerial nominee.

Technical Assessment

The information campaign provided to ensure that all prospective candidates had a clear understanding of the Technical Assessment system and how to proceed continued in 2010 with the delivery of briefing sessions in Dublin, Limerick, Cork and Galway and the publication of a video recording of the content of the briefing session on the RIAI website. In 2010 the RIAI also published support documentation for candidates on the RIAI website including a summary of questions asked at briefings and the responses provided, copies of bulletins issued, information on the Bank of Ireland loan offering negotiated by the RIAI

Route	Description	Eligible	%
A	degree in architecture + professional practice examination	74	52
B	recognition where all or part of the qualification came from outside the State and did not benefit from automatic recognition	4	3
C	degree in architecture + assessment based on seven years practical experience	8	6
D	automatic recognition under the Professional Qualifications Directive 2005/36/EC	55	39
E	Technical Assessment	1	1
TOTAL		142	100

for Technical Assessment candidates and a copy of the slides shown at the briefing sessions.

The RIAI also organised training for the Technical Assessment Board to address the assessment and interviewing of candidates. This training was provided by the RCSI. The RCSI was also engaged to support the Technical Assessment Board in its role of appointing assessors in accordance with Section 21(4) and 61(1) of the Act. In all, 50 applications were received and considered by the Board and a call for interview was made to 44 applicants. Of the 44 candidates interviewed 32 were recommended for appointment as assessors. Before inclusion on the panel of assessors, those recommended had to complete a two day training to build on their existing expertise.

The RIAI sought legal advice on the Technical Assessment Board's behalf, including a clarification on the interpretation of the criteria set out in Section 22(7) of the Building Control Act 2007. The RIAI has subsequently published advice notes issued by the Board to the Assessors on the RIAI website as part of the Technical Assessment Information package,

European co-operation supporting mobility for architects

As with 2009, almost 40% of architect admissions in 2010 were carried out under the provisions of the Professional Qualifications Directive (2005/36/EC). The Directive requires that provisions be made for administrative co-operation between Competent Authorities (the RIAI is the Irish Competent Authority for architects). The RIAI has been very pro-active in this

regard being a central actor in the formation and operation of the ENACA (European Network of Architects Competent Authorities www.enaca.eu). In 2010 the ENACA held meetings in Berlin, London and Brussels (2). The RIAI also held a business meeting with the ARB the day before the London ENACA meeting to carry out a mutual updating on admission systems. The European Commission, having initiated a process of review of the Professional Qualifications Directive engaged directly with the ENACA with a specific emphasis on the experience reports required from Competent Authorities by 3 September 2011. The RIAI provided the Commission with a report as required. In addition, in June 2010 the RIAI welcomed visitors from the Slovak Chamber of Architects who came to learn more about RIAI Admission systems, especially Technical Assessment and the Register Admission Examination.



RIAI Council for 2010

Paul Keogh
Michelle Fagan
Martin Colreavy
David Power
Susan Cogan
Sean O'Iaoire
Toal O'muire
Angela Brady
James Pike
Eddie Conroy
James Coady
Niall Mccullough
Grainne Shaffrey
Orla Fitzgerald
Mark Turpin
Eamonn Greville
David Wylde
Michael Williams
Anne Harpur
Helena Mcelmeel
Brian Maher
Terence Mccaw
Peter Cody
Maoliosa Molloy
Ronan Rose-Roberts
John Graby

President
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Honorary Secretary
Honorary Treasurer
Past President
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Ordinary Member
Member Elected By Council
Northern Region Representative
Southern Region Representative
Eastern Region Representative
Western Region Representative
Architectural Technician Member
Rsua Observer Member
Aai Representative
Aga Nui Representative
Aga Dit Representative
Director

RIAI Taskforces

Council

- RIAI Council
- RIAI Audit Committee
- RIAI Remuneration Committee
- Western Region
- Northern Region
- Southern Region
- Eastern Region
- Limerick Forum
- London Group

Services to Members

- Accessibility
- Housing
- Sustainability
- Historic Buildings Committee
- Practice Committee
- **Practice Sub Committee A:**
Planning & Development Plan Reviews, Public Service Architects
- **Practice Sub Committee B:**
Building Regulations – Fire Safety – Health and Safety – DAC's- Building Technologies
- **Practice Sub Committee C:**
Building Contracts – RIAI Forms – Government Forms – Certification – Contract Administration – Dispute Resolution – Insurances – Project Management – Warranties – Liaison Committee
- **Practice Sub Committee D:**
Good Practice Guide Review – Risk Management – Practice Notes – Information Papers – CPD online

- **Practice Sub Committee E:**
The Role of the Practice Committee – Communication with Membership – Reducing Bureaucracy
- **Practice Sub Committee F:**
Information Systems – Project Costing – Templates – Risk Analysis – Cost Guidelines
- **Practice Sub Committee G:**
Review of RIAI Documentation – Client/Architect Agreements – Client Briefing – Warranties – Opinions on Compliance
- **Practice Sub Committee H:**
Procurement – P.I.I
- **Practice Sub Committee I:**
Building Information Modelling
- Design for Education Committee
- Healthcare Design Committee
- City and County Architects
- Liaison Committee
- Architectural Technologist Committee
- Competence Taskforce
- Architectural Technology Competence Taskforce
- Good Practice Guide
- Conservation Accreditation Board
- Conservation Appeal Board

Services to the Profession

- Professional Conduct Committee
(NOTE: Not active at present while awaiting Ministerial nomination of

non-architect members of the committee (ref Building Control Bill)).

- Board of Architectural Education
- Student Award / Travelling Scholarship
- Architecture Assessment Panel
- Professional Practice Exam Board
- BAE Architectural Technologist Assessment Panel
- BAE Admissions Committee
- University of Limerick B. Arch Course – Visiting Board
- Galway Dip Arch. Tech. Course – Visiting Board
- ARAE REG, UCD
- Architectural Technologist Examination
- International Affairs Committee
- ENACA
- Admissions Board
- Technical Assessment Board

Architecture & the Public

- Urban Design Committee
- Architecture Ireland
- House Magazine
- Irish Architecture Foundation
- Tidy Towns Award
- European
- Gold Medal For Architecture
- Silver Medal For Housing
- Silver Medal for Conservation And Restoration
- RIAI Annual Irish Architecture Awards
- Government Policy on Architecture Committee
- Media Relations
- Architecture Ireland Editorial Board
- Competition Juries

Architecture & Public Policy

- Local Government Management Services Board
- Irish Agrément Board
- Timber Consultative Committee
- The Construction Industry Standards Committee
- Joint DOELG/RIAI Housing Committee
- Architects Council of Europe
- ACE Work Groups:
 - Cost Information Systems
 - Internal Market and Competition
 - Governance
 - SHW
 - SHW Research
 - Trade in Services
 - Dispute Resolution
 - Professional Qualifications Directive
- Professional Experience
- Accreditation-Validation
- Finance
- Construction Industry Council
- Inter-Professional Group
- Irish Architectural Archive
- RIAI Insurance Services Limited
- Design Ireland
- Construction Advisory Committee – Health & Safety
- Construction Safety Partnership
- BRAB
- DOCOMOMO
- National Construction & Demolition Waste Council
- URBAN FORUM
- Local Authority SPC's (Strategic Policy Committees)
 - Dublin City Council – Housing, Social & Community Affairs SPC
 - Dun Laoghaire Rathdown CoCo – Planning SPC
 - Dun Laoghaire Rathdown CoCo – Housing SPC
 - Fingal CoCo – Planning & Development SPC
 - Kilkenny CoCo – Infrastructure, Transportation, Water Services and other Policy Issues SPC
 - Leitrim CoCo – Community, Culture & Enterprise Development
 - Limerick City Council – Economic and Development SPC
 - Limerick City Council – Social Policy and Housing SPC
 - Mayo CoCo – Housing SPC
 - Monaghan CoCo – Planning, Economic Dvpt & Water SPC
 - Waterford CoCo – Environment & Planning SPC
 - Waterford CoCo – Housing SPC
 - Waterford CoCo – Community, Culture, Sports & Recreation SPC

Financial Report

2010 was the first year in over a decade when the RIAI operated at a loss. The RIAI continued to invest significant resources in the development of the systems required to administer the Register of Architects, which must be entirely self-funding as prescribed by the Building Control Act 2007. To date the RIAI has invested over €600,000 in development and further investment will be required in 2011 and 2012. The RIAI took decisive action at the onset of the downturn and made significant cuts in all areas of overhead, including salaries and renegotiated contracts with all suppliers.

During the year investment was required for the training of, and the provision of legal advice required by the newly appointed Technical Assessment Board and Admissions Board, both of which became operational in 2010. There was also training and advice required for the RIAI administration charged with administering the Act. The RIAI was still awaiting the appointment of the Appeals and Professional Conduct Committee Boards by the Minister of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government at the end of 2010. The RIAI had written to the Minister of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government as required under the Act for approval on all of the charges to be levied; no response had been received at the end of the financial year; which had created a difficult environment for financial planning.

In reality the cost of the various registration systems was difficult to account for as the charges submitted by the RIAI in 2009 were not agreed and the system was not fully operational. RIAI continued to subvent registration charges from support and business services. In addition to this subvention €200,000 was expended from resources to reduce charges for those experiencing unemployment or financial hardship. This subvention was the main reason for the 2010 deficit.

In 2010 the RIAI continued to provide a broad range of support initiatives to assist Architects and Technologists in meeting their professional obligations including extensive Continuing Professional Development courses designed to update Architects and Technologists on the changing legislative environment. The RIAI also invested resources in the development of Continuing Professional Development systems.

The financial position of the RIAI remains strong with good level of reserves and unencumbered assets; strict monitoring of the financial aspect of all activities will be continued by the Executive with strategic guidance from the RIAI Council.



Financial Statements

Revenue

for the year ended 31 December 2010

	2010	2009
	€	€
Operating income from continuing operations	3,887,586	4,455,637
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year before taxation	(164,396)	146,863
Taxation	-	-
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year after taxation	(164,396)	146,863

Approved by the Council on 14 July 2011

Susan Cogan

Council Member

James Coady

Council Member

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2010

	2010	2009
	€	€
Assets Employed		
Fixed Assets	2,240,159	2,347,420
Current Assets		
Stocks	74,827	72,343
Debtors	206,267	397,733
Bank	3,360,921	3,544,385
	3,642,015	4,014,461
CREDITORS		
(Amounts falling due within one year)	(714,331)	(1,029,642)
Net Current Assets	2,927,684	2,984,819
Net Assets	5,167,843	5,332,239
Financed By:		
Revenue Account	3,946,600	4,110,996
Revaluation Reserve	1,195,333	1,195,333
Other Reserves	25,910	25,910
	5,167,843	5,332,239

Approved by the Council on 14 July 2011

Susan Cogan

Council Member

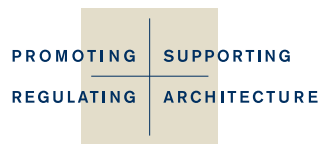
James Coady

Council Member

Note

The Revenue Account and Balance Sheet are extracted from the complete statutory financial statements which have been attached to the Annual Report lodged at the Companies Registration Office and on which the auditors have reported without qualification. A copy of the complete statutory financial statements are also available on request from the Institute or can be accessed on the Institute's website.





RIAI

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